

2014

City of Augusta 2014 Annual Report

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Proposed Lithgow Library Expansion Project

CITY OF AUGUSTA

2014

ANNUAL REPORT



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Mayor's & Manager's Greeting



City Manager, Bill Bridgeo



Mayor, David Rollins

To the residents and visitors to our community,

As the material in this annual report suggests, our community continues to be “A Capital Opportunity” – a wonderful place to live and/or work. In 2014, the City of Augusta witnessed a number of notable events and saw great progress made on many fronts. Notwithstanding some construction inconvenience, a city-wide network of natural gas distribution lines was put in place and residents and businesses throughout the community are now enjoying the benefit of this cleaner, cheaper fuel. The impressive new \$300 million Maine General Medical Center opened its doors on the Old Belgrade Road and the new \$57 million state Judicial Center neared completion. Work also began on the construction of 47 new apartments for seniors in the iconic former Cony High School building. That \$11 million project is slated for completion later this spring. Consistent with the extraordinary spirit of giving ever present in our community, over \$2 million dollars was raised by volunteers to spur a successful \$11 million Lithgow Library renovation and expansion project – finally approved by an overwhelmingly positive voter referendum – that breaks ground this month. Donations of time and money and materials also made possible a terrific facelift for our Cony High School Alumni Field athletic facility. The list goes on but these examples illustrate the dynamism that has always been characteristic of our community.

As Mayor and City Manager, we take immense pride in the work that our dedicated municipal employees routinely produce as they deliver the array of services to you that you come to expect and enjoy every day. Whether that is combating the record snowfall and related highway maintenance challenges (that kept our DPW crews on the roads almost every weekend this year); meeting the ongoing public safety challenges (major structural fires, ambulances responses, illegal drug trafficking); ensuring the availability of quality of life resources like our library, our parks and cemeteries, Old Fort Western, and our expansive recreation and childcare programming; providing for regional enterprises like the Civic Center, the Hatch Hill Regional Landfill or the Augusta State Airport; or stimulating quality development from our planning and zoning, economic and community development, engineering and related functions, we believe that your City government is oriented to high quality, customer-friendly and cost effective service delivery and we hope that you share that assessment.

No municipal entity can succeed without the support and involvement of the citizenry. Thus, we urge you – if you aren’t already – to be in touch with us and find an opportunity to participate in one of the many enterprises that make our City the special place that it is. Our hope is that this annual report will stimulate that interest.

Augusta City Council



Michael Byron
Ward 1 Councilor



Patrick Paradis
Ward 3 Councilor



Darek M. Grant
Ward 2 Councilor



Mark O'Brien
Ward 4 Councilor



Jeffrey Bilodeau
Councilor At-Large



Dale McCormick
Councilor At-Large



David Rollins
Councilor At-Large



Cecil Munson
Councilor At-Large

The City Council is composed of eight members, one member from each of the four wards of the city and four at-large members. Councilors serve three-year terms and can only serve in that position for three consecutive terms.

The City Council oversees all City government activities and establishes the legislative policies of the City, adopts and amends ordinances and local laws as necessary for proper management of the City government, provides for the exercise of all powers of local government vested in the City by Charter or State law, appropriates municipal resources and sets the tax rate for the provision of public services, and appoints qualified persons to vacancies on City Boards and Commissions.

The Council deals with legislative matters as a body and its policy decisions are implemented through the City Manager's Office.

The City Council is advised and the City is represented on legal matters by the law firm of Preti Flaherty in Augusta. Attorney Stephen Langsdorf is Corporation Counsel of record.

Committee Thanks

Kudos go out to our committee members, whose contributions help make our hometown a better place.

Airport Advisory Committee

June Cumler
Paul McClay
Gary Peachey
William Perry
David Smith
Peter Thompson
Paul Wade

Assessment Review Board

Scott Benson
Paul Castonguay
Scott Emery, Chair
Maurice Fortin
William Leet

Conservation Commission

Rachel Dyer
Roberta Record
Martha Muetzel
Rex Turner, Chair
Mikaela Ziobro
John Harvey Versteeg

Dog Park Advisory Committee

William Dunn
Karen Knox
Scott Lessard
Patrick O'Connell
Francois Roodman

General Assistance Fair Hearing

John Finnegan

Greater Augusta Utility District

Charlene Hamiwka
Kenneth Knight, Chair
Stephen Roberge
Lesley Jones
Donald Roberts
David Smith
Kathleen Sikora

Historic Preservation Commission

Gerald Bumford
Andrew Loman
Lorie Mastemaker
Sylvia Hudson

Phyllis von Herrlich
Alison Sucy

Housing Authority

Margaret Ayotte
Donald Marchildon
Nate Cotnoir
Raegan LaRochelle
Amanda Frost
Samantha Nowlin
George Quirion

International Code Council

John Butts
Stephen Roberge
Jeff Shostak

Lithgow Library Trustees

Joan Callahan, Chair
Diane Doyon
John Finnegan
Scott Milewski
Kathleen Petersen
Carol Saunders
Andrew Silsby
Keith Varner

Old Fort Western Trustees

Jane Coryell
David Crockett
Thomas Doore
Richard Freeman, Chair
Elizabeth (Wendy) Hazard
Terrence McCabe, Sr.
Dan Stevens
Roger R. Pomerleau
Phyllis vonHerrlich

Parking District

Stacy Cummings-Gervais
John Finnegan, Chair
Thomas Johnson
Tobias Parkhurst

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

Cheryl Clukey, Chair
Tim Dennett
David Hopkins

George Murray
David Rand
Daniel A. Wathen
Walter Zaccadelli

Planning Board

Linda Conti
Steve Dumont
William McKenna
Alison K.B. Nichols
A. Delaine Nye
Peter Pare
Justin Poirier
Heather Pouliot
Corey Vose, Chair

Registration Appeals Board

Thomas Doore
Linda Hadley-Rood
Louise Lerley
Joan Theberge, Chair

Strategic Communications Committee

David Cheever, Chair
Michael Tardiff
Scott Milewski
Nancy Bernier
Laurence Ringrose

Tree Board

Nancy Bernier
Thomas Doore
Charlene Hamiwka
Judith Kypragora
Brian Marson, III
Margaret O'Connor

Zoning Appeals Board

Tim Dennett
Andrew Dunbar
Peter Fortunato, Chair
Roger Lessard, Sr.
Patten Williams
John Seed
Aaron Stred
Walter Zaccadelli

Augusta State Airport

John Guimond, Airport Manager

Cape Air was awarded the Essential Air Service (EAS) contract by the USDOT to provide air service at the Augusta airport. On November 1, 2014 Cape Air renewed their Augusta airport contract with the Maine Department of Transportation to provide scheduled air service for another four years. Cape Air continues to provide exceptional air service here in Augusta carrying 5,226 passengers from Augusta to Boston in 2014.

Recent improvements were made at the airport terminal this past summer. New energy efficient windows were installed in the terminal lobby and the restaurant area. The airport installed two new sliding doors at the main entrances to improve heat and cooling loss. We also completed an HVAC system upgrade at the terminal. The new air conditioning system is using air-to-air heat pump technology. This project was included as part of a larger city-wide energy project. The airport also converted the terminal building over to natural gas. The airport will see an energy savings from this conversion as well. Hertz expanded their operations at the airport. They are now considered a Hertz Local Edition (HLE) agency. Hertz now partners with local car dealerships and auto body shops to provide insurance loaners to their customers which they did not offer in the past. The car rental space was renovated to allow better service and visibility to the customers they serve.

The Airport installed a new 5,000 gallon above-ground diesel fuel storage tank at the maintenance facility. The old underground tank, located adjacent to the general aviation aircraft parking area, is scheduled to be removed by early summer 2015. In 2013 a draft of the Airport Layout Plan (ALP) was completed and submitted to the FAA for review and approval. Early in 2014 the FAA approved the ALP which opens up limited airport land for new revenue generating projects, such as hangar development and parking lot redesign for long term parking spaces.

The Augusta State Airport is owned by the State of Maine through the Maine Department of Transportation. The airport is however, maintained and managed by the City of Augusta under the terms of a management agreement. As with previous agreements, it entrusts the operation of the Airport to the City with a special provision that the City shall not be held liable for any financial deficit or obligations incurred by the Airport.

Codes Bureau

Matt Nazar, Development Services Director

Commercial and residential construction projects again increased in 2014 over 2013, and the volume of overall activity seen by the Codes Bureau was significant and continued to increase from past years. The Bureau of Code Enforcement saw \$48,515,000 of development projects apply for permits in 2014 with most beginning construction in the same year. That's a significant increase in the value of the projects being constructed, but there more projects under construction and more alterations to buildings than in the last 5 years. The number of projects reviewed and inspected by the Bureau of Code Enforcement continues to be significant and on a continued economic recovery pace.

With the completion of the Maine General Hospital project in late 2013, the Code Enforcement office continued to work on new, large, complex projects being constructed in the city including, the new courthouse on Court Street, the redevelopment of the Cony Flatiron building, the complete redevelopment of the Maine DOT Maintenance building on Industrial Drive, and the new Main Veterans' Home offices on Civic Center Drive. Developers continue to show an interest in Augusta, and with the improving economy, city staff expects development and re-development proposals to increase.

The City continued to experience a healthy reinvestment from many businesses and residents, as much of the value of improvements made were additions and alterations to existing facilities and buildings. Although the number of new housing construction starts in 2014 is down from last year, the City did experience another solid year in the housing category with 10 new homes permitted, and the prospect of quite a number of new residential apartments on the horizon in downtown and converted buildings near downtown, such as the Cony Flatiron Building and Hodgkins School. The City continued to see a recent trend of new construction in some of its newest housing subdivisions such as in Cony Village, Fieldstone Place, and Stone Ridge Drive. As more individuals consider returning to service center communities, the expectation is that this positive trend of new housing in the city will continue to gain momentum. That momentum should increase with the introduction of natural gas to the city in 2014. This new energy source makes living in Augusta more attractive than ever.

The Code Enforcement office continued its significant efforts to enforce the State and City adopted Life Safety codes to ensure safe living conditions in multi-family residences in Augusta. The Code Enforcement Officers works closely with the Augusta Fire Department, the Augusta General Assistance office, and the State Fire Marshal's Office to identify serious deficiencies in the safety of a number of residential structures in the city. Deficiencies included lack of secondary means of escaping the building from upper floors, structurally unsound access decks, improperly sized egress windows, unsafe electrical and boiler equipment, among other violations. In most cases, property owners were given the opportunity to create a plan of action to correct the deficiencies. In a few cases, the buildings were determined to be unsafe to occupy during the violation correction period. In those cases the building was deemed unsafe for occupancy and the residents were moved to other living arrangements.

In the coming year the Code Enforcement Bureau expects to continue to work with residents and businesses to help them achieve their goals efficiently, effectively, and safely. Additionally, the Bureau hopes that proposed changes to the Land Use Ordinance will enable business owners and residents to more easily understand the requirements for developing property to enhance long term safety, prosperity, and livability in our beautiful city.

Economic Development

Keith Luke, Deputy Director of Development Services

In 2014 the City of Augusta made important strides on a number of different economic development fronts. From affordable senior housing, to retail, distribution and downtown redevelopment, projects in Augusta all moved ahead – keeping pace with development trends in Portland, Lewiston/Auburn and Bangor.

Significant projects in 2014:

- 47 units of senior housing are being constructed at the former Cony Flatiron building, at a total cost of about \$11M will be completed in Spring 2015.
- An additional 47 units of affordable senior housing were approved for the former Hodgkins School site, which should be completed in early 2016.
- Work continues on the \$55M Maine Judicial Center in Augusta's downtown – a 120,000 square foot facility that will house District, Family and Superior courts in one location. To be completed in Spring 2015.
- The Marketplace shopping center added 15,000 square feet of new retail space to accommodate three new food and retail operations, while the Augusta Crossing shopping center added 11,000 square feet to accommodate two new retailers.
- Upper floor residential development continues on Water Street – 9 units of upscale rental housing on the street's east side and 6 units of upscale residential housing west side – a total investment of about \$2M.
- NRF Distributors began work on a 51,000 square foot addition – consolidating their Central Maine operations in Augusta.
- Oakes & Parkhurst Glass purchased the 28,000 square foot former Verizon building at 140 Capitol Street and relocated their business from Manchester.
- The Augusta Planning Board recently approved plans on Western Avenue for a 25,000 square foot, 120 room nationally-affiliated hotel – construction to begin in late winter 2015.
- Work nears completion on the \$57 million, 120,000 square foot Maine Judicial Center.

The past year also saw local businessman Richard Parkhurst take a leading role organizing restoration efforts for the historic Colonial Theater. Important progress was made protecting the building from further deterioration, and the first steps of a major renovation are underway. As organizing and fundraising efforts continue to take shape, there is renewed confidence that the theater will be a cornerstone of the city's downtown revitalization efforts.

Declining energy prices will continue to drive a steadily improving local economy - we should expect additional investments in commercial real estate and housing in both 2015 and 2016.

Engineering Bureau

Lionel Cayer, City Engineer

The Engineering Bureau provides professional/technical services to the City of Augusta related to infrastructure needs for the growth and development of the City both residential and commercial. It provides design and management services for a variety of City projects and plays a large role in the evaluation and approval of other private development projects which are being planned within the City. The Engineering Bureau is staffed by the City Engineer.

Some of the city projects which were completed or started this year were:

Design and/or Construction Management Projects

- Upper Water Street, sidewalk & lighting upgrades
- KRRT trail connection / extension
- Cony to Farrington school trail connector
- School Street reconstruction
- Civic Center Drive sidewalk extension

Along with these projects throughout the city, the Engineering Bureau also provided technical assistance to other city bureaus and public support in the following areas:

Technical Assistance/Public Support

- Review of Subdivision Plans
- Review of Commercial Site Plans
- Coordinate city interests in State road projects
- Coordination with Local Utilities for Projects
- Driveway Location and New Culvert Approvals
- Coordination with natural gas company(s)

Records of City Public Buildings and Streets

- Topographic Information
- Right-of-Way Locations
- 1939 Survey Maps
- Street Descriptions
- Horizontal and Vertical Datum
- Computerized Aerial Mapping

Facilities and Systems Bureau

Robert LaBreck, Director

The Facilities and Systems Bureau continues to maintain a high level of safety at all city buildings, and is continuing to complete projects and routine maintenance that keep the buildings: laws and rules compliant, capture as much energy efficiency as possible, keep the existing building equipment maintained and operating properly, and keep the city's systems maintained and functional.

The Bureau continues to keep the facilities and systems in a good state of repair, maintain a healthy clean environment within the facilities in which to work, and to establish quality maintenance programs and practices to accomplish these tasks. In an ongoing effort the Bureau continues to review and upgrade existing contracts, establish new contracts for services, and supplies, and works closely with other city departments and entities to accomplish these goals.

The Facilities and Systems Bureau is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of the facilities' Life Safety systems, mechanical systems, electrical systems and equipment, plumbing systems, elevator equipment, roof and structure, and general building maintenance, as well as the street lighting, traffic signal systems, and the traffic signal communication infrastructure throughout the City.

The Bureau continues to implement energy savings that were recommended through an Energy Audit conducted several years ago. This year's projects consist of a solar hot-air wall at Hartford Fire Station, a hot water boiler system at Hartford Fire Station, a hot water boiler system at Public Works, hot air furnace replacements at the Parks, Cemeteries, and Trees building, heat pump heating/cooling system at the Augusta State Airport, and energy upgrades at the Civic Center. This Bureau has been working closely with the staff of the noted buildings on these projects. The Bureau continues to look into any and all possible energy savings measures (lighting, heating/cooling equipment, combined heat power system) and brings forward for review any projects that will be cost effective and to make the city more energy efficient.

Harford Fire Station Energy work: Hartford Fire station saw the installation of approximately 1,200 square feet of solar hot air wall installed on the south (back side) of the building. The solar hot air wall provides air to roof mounted heat pump condensers that work with air handlers for both heating and cooling of the entire facility. The project was partially funded by Efficiency Maine as a demonstration project of this type of heating/cooling system.

City Center Energy Work: The existing fluorescent lighting fixtures are being replaced with energy efficient LED fixtures. The micro-turbine (Combined Heat Power unit) is operating at full capacity and has reduced the overall energy consumption in the building. It also continues to heat the entire facility during the winter months.

Civic Center The process has begun to address the conversion of older heating equipment from propane to natural gas. The process has included the construction of a new boiler room and the installation of new hot water boilers and heating system piping. The new heating system will be sized to replace the existing electric heating units located throughout the building.

Street Lighting More existing high-intensity discharge lighting fixtures got replaced with energy efficient LED's at several locations throughout the city. In most cases the energy savings is well in excess of 50 percent.

Planning Bureau

Matt Nazar, Director

The following report summarizes the project review activities of the Planning Board, Augusta Historic Preservation Commission and highlights major undertakings of the Planning Bureau during 2014:

Planning Board Membership, Staff, Projects

The Planning Board consists of up to nine (9) members, all of whom are residents of the City appointed by the Mayor. During 2014, the Chair of the Board continued to be Corey Vose. The Planning Bureau was staffed by Matt Nazar, the Director of Development Services, and a full-time Assistant Planner, Susan Redmond. The staff worked to assist members of the public with projects being undertaken throughout the city, including a major expansion to the Kennebec County Courthouse, a project expected to be a fixture in Kennebec County for the next 150 years. This year continued to see a significant number of proposed modifications to the Augusta Land Use Ordinance in response to major changes on the east side of the city.

The Planning Board reviewed recommendations for ordinance changes for land at the intersection of Church Hill Road and North Belfast Ave, known as the Riggs Brook Village zone. Staff members also provide advice to the Planning Board on numerous projects before them, on many additional modifications to the Land Use Ordinance. Finally, staff assisted the City Manager and City Council on redevelopment of the Hodgkins School and facilitating the installation of natural gas at city properties and throughout the city.



Planning Bureau

Matt Nazar, Director

Augusta Historic Preservation Commission

The Augusta Historic Preservation Commission consists of seven members appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the Council. Membership fluctuated during 2014 due to individuals having other outside commitments and having to resign, and new people were appointed. The Commission meets monthly and the current chair is Lorie Mastemaker.

During 2014, the Commission:

- continued administering the Demolition Delay ordinance and reviewed several proposed demolitions;
- replaced vandalized Museum in the Streets plaques and posts;
- worked on the Historic District ordinance with a City Council subcommittee and helped create a Design Guideline document to help people understand the proposed ordinance;
- reviewed and approved 3 historic building plaque applications; and
- The Commission continues to work to maintain an awareness of Augusta's past as an effort to enrich its future.



Civic Center

Dana Colwill, Director

2014 was a difficult year for attracting major events to Augusta. However, for the first time in 14 years, the Harlem Globetrotters returned on March 31st. The Trotters will be returning on March 30, 2015 to the Civic Center. As well, The Taste of Home Cooking School returned in September after a one year absence.

The main auditorium was rented 180 days in 2014.

Some new events for us in 2014 included...

- General Motors Regional Truck Event
- State wide Gaming Convention
- Climate Solutions Conference
- Howie Carr Night
- Cross Insurance State Meeting

REVENUES/EXPENSES

Revenues: \$2,507,431 (Down \$193,626.00 from FY 2013)

Expenses: \$2,670,434.00 (Down \$77,175.00 from FY 2013)

Difference: **(\$163,003.00)**

This is the biggest loss the Civic Center has had in the past 10 years since my directorship. The Civic Center had averaged annual losses of just over \$44,000 per year on a 2.8 million dollar budget prior to FY 2014. This year alone represents nearly 30% of the total \$560,111 deficit over 10 years. However, the city has transferred a total of \$580,113 from the Civic Center to the City's General Fund for support services over this same period. Taking this into consideration results in a net gain of \$20,002 or, basically, a breakeven situation over the past 10 years. The deficit this past 10 years is primarily due to over \$450,000 being added to the Civic Center's annual operating budget to cover the debt service and depreciation of the 4.3 million dollar referendum bond in 2003 for expansion and upgrades.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

* Rectangular tables: \$18,816.00

* Banquet Chairs: \$9,914.00

Total Capital Outlay: \$28,730.00



Recreation Bureau

Bruce Chase, Director

The Recreation Bureau in 2014 continued to develop and expand our program offerings to the residents of Augusta. We added a full Arts program with the development of the Buker Art Studio with classes for kids and adults year round. Over the summer we had 300+ kids in our summer camps that included robotics camp, Science Camp, Art Camp, Theater Camp, and all our sports camps. In the fall we had over 250 kids playing in the Youth Soccer Program, along with 120 players in the Youth Football League. We had 42 teams in our summer adult softball leagues, this winter we had 250+ kids playing in our recreation and travel basketball league.

The Buker Community Center was full of activities daily and continues to provide a place for kids and families to go and participate in a number of exciting activities. Some of the offerings at the center are birthday parties for kids and meeting spaces for groups. 2014 was a great year for the Recreation Bureau and the Buker Community center.

Childcare Bureau

Karen Hatch, Director

This was the 22nd year the City of Augusta has offered childcare for the residents of Augusta. The program has grown from serving 30 children at one site to serving over 200 children at 4 different sites.

The population of children that the city serves in the City of Augusta Childcare Bureau are those children whose parents are either working, in training or would go home alone. Care is offered anytime that school is NOT in except for federal holidays.

The City's After School Childcare Program offers vibrant and adult-supervised sets of activities, ranging from help with homework, arts and crafts, outdoor play, gym activities, science activities, and board games. For caregivers and parents, the convenience of having their children stay right at school is an added bonus of not having to go out of their way to pick them up on their way home.

The Childcare Bureau partnered up with the Recreation Department for the Annual Christmas Tree Lighting events. Childcare staff was on hand to do crafts with the children. There were an estimated 400 children that participated.

Summer Childcare returned to Farrington School under the leadership of returning Camp Directors Brittany O'Brien, Beth Sproul LeBrun, and Meghan Marston in KinderCamp. Summer Care averaged 125 children per day. KinderCamp had a waiting list most of the summer.

Children attending the program were able to connect to the summer Title 1 Reading Program that was held in the Farrington Library. The Library staff led a group literacy activity along with providing an opportunity for the children to check out a library book each week.

The City of Augusta's Childcare Bureau is a program of the City of Augusta, and is funded totally through private parent fees (60.8%), A.S.P.I.R.E./Transitional Childcare (17.6%), Childcare Subsidy Program (20%), and Department of Human Services (1.6%).

Parks, Cemeteries and Trees

James Goulet, Director

What an exciting year 2014 has been, it has been my good fortune to work with an excellent team of talented employees. There is one foreman, one horticulturist, and four skilled laborers' of which two are transferred to Public Works during the winter months and approximately 17-21 seasonal employees are hired to help during spring, summer and fall schedules.

Once again, I would first like to take the opportunity to thank and recognize Mr. Scott Longfellow for his generosity! All the annuals for our City gardens were donated by Longfellow's Greenhouse in Manchester. This generous gift of flowers contributes so much to the City's landscape and enriches our lives.

Bicentennial Park was opened this year, many thanks to the Rotary Club and Friends of BNP for their financial and hands on assistance opening this Park. Special thanks to Bob Dodge and Cheryl Clukey for their untiring support of BNP.

The Bureau is responsible for the management and maintenance of seventeen cemeteries, eighteen parks and playgrounds including three swimming pools, four softball fields, tennis courts, track, athletic fields, twenty-six flower gardens, a river front, community forest areas, city street trees, nature trails and Bicentennial Nature Park. We're also under contract with the School Department to maintain their grounds and athletic fields. Approximately 200+/- acres are mowed weekly.

Several Bureau Accomplishments for 2014

- ◆ Market Square reconstruction, work consisted of the relocating the Baker Fountain, placement of new granite curbing, sidewalks, benches, lighting and new landscape.
- ◆ As part of the Market Square Project the Bus Depot was relocated to the MSHA parking lot, a kiosk, bench, bus shelter as well as a concrete and blacktop apron were constructed.
- ◆ Tall Pines Way road project has been completed, after months of going through a (Army Corp) permit process the last 350 feet of road with two stream crossings was constructed.
- ◆ A new storage facility, ornamental fencing and an entrance archway was constructed at Alumni Field
- ◆ A small addition with a restroom was constructed to the Parks Compound.
- ◆ Twenty-six flower gardens, located at highly visible locations throughout the City were planted this year.
- ◆ An overhaul at Cunningham Park was completed, a new water play structure and park benches were installed.
- ◆ An extensive maintenance program was conducted on the City's athletic fields, i.e. aeration, application of amendments, over seeding, performance mowing and irrigation. The Cony Cross Country Trails and several softball fields we re-conditioned.
- ◆ Day of Caring events, Memorial Day preparations, KRRT ½ Marathon, Capital City Riverfront Fourth Celebration, Augusta Fest, Save Your Breath Walk, Riverfront Holiday Tree Lighting and Fireworks are events hosted by the Bureau.
- ◆ There were 47 burials in City-owned cemeteries in 2014.

This will be my last annual report as I am retiring as of December 26, 2014; what a pleasure it has been to have served the good citizens of Augusta. All of us who work for the Bureau have a deep appreciation of the beauty that is so unique to the City of Augusta, what a wonderful place to work and live.

Community Services

Leif Dahlin, Director

The Community Services Department had a busy 2014 providing staffing resources to City Council appointed committees. Council Committee work included; OREO (Other Real Estate Owned), Bicentennial Nature Park study, Mill Park Advisory Committee, Strategic Communications Committee, Haymarket Square, Conservation Commission and Dog Park Committee.

Most noteworthy is the retirement of Jim Goulet, Director of Parks, Cemeteries and Trees. Jim was with the city for eight years and during his tenure did an outstanding job of leading the Bureau. With the support of the City Council, Mayor, City Manager and residents of Augusta, he did a fantastic job renovating much of the park's bureau infrastructure. Unquestionably, Jim left the Parks, Cemeteries and Trees Bureau in much better shape when he left the employment of Augusta.



Pictured: Jim Goulet, recently retired Director of Parks, Cemeteries and Trees. Best wishes for a long & happy retirement!

Mill Park in 2014 saw numerous improvements including the parking lot enhancements, additional landscaping, and a memorial stone moved here from another park. There is more yet to be done at Mill Park over the next few years. City Council and the Mayor established the Mill Park Advisory Committee and accomplished much in 2014 and are poised to take on additional opportunities. The downtown Haymarket Square (a.k.a. Market Square) construction was ac-

complished. We have a beautiful NEW downtown park that will serve the community for generations to come. This great project involved many stakeholders and planning meetings that resulted in an outcome we can all be proud of.

Tall Pines Way, a road into the Bond Brook Recreation Area was completed. This road is one of true beauty and will provide tremendous benefits to the residents of Augusta for decades to come.

The Farmer's Market at Mill Park continues to thrive and make a mark on the Augusta community. A HUGE part of the market's success beyond their own drive and commitment is MaineGeneral Hospital. The on-going support by the Hospital for this endeavor has made a tremendous difference in the success of the market.

The Strategic Communications Committee continued work on their charge allocating the appropriated "bank of hours" for TV production work and provided policy review as submitted by staff of CTV-7.

The General Assistance Bureau continues to be a busy operation providing assistance to more and more folks in need. The bureau is seeing more families in need of assistance as compared to a few years ago.

Other note worthy projects the Department of Community Services carried out are:

- The downtown bus stop was relocated to a new location and the ridership are the beneficiaries of new facilities at the new location.
- The Mill Park Petanque courts had new lights installed thanks to great work of Ray Fecteau.

Community Services (cont.)

- The Mill Park William Payson Viles White Pine Grove received some TLC.
- Alumni Field improvements include;
- New storage building.
- Entrance archway installed.
- Fencing installed at the entrance and around the bleachers.
- Lighting and ventilation upgrades were made.
- Greatly needed Parks building improvements including bathrooms.
- Cunningham Park improvements were completed.

The seven bureaus of the Community Services Department are: Childcare, Health and Welfare, Lithgow Public Library, Old Fort Western, Parks, Cemeteries & Trees and Recreation Bureau and CTV-7. The following is a list of what we do and how do we do it:

- Provide critical links between the City Manager's Office, City Council and Bureaus.
- Provide clerical, administrative and budget support, as well as management oversight, to seven bureaus.
- Work and coordinate activities with other City Departments.
- Assist in allocating human, fiscal, and physical resources.
- Assist City Manager with project work.
- Provide technical and professional support to City Council.
- Communicate with the public, including taxpayers, residents, businesses, as well as social and service organizations.
- Create an environment that enhances and encourages staff development and performance.
- Provide support to various boards and committees.
- Strive to provide the best possible customer service to the citizens of Augusta.
- Strive to enhance the Quality-of-Life of the residents, visitors and businesses of Augusta.

The Community Services Department staff work with a number of boards and committees made up of almost all Augusta residents. Without these individuals and groups, it would be far more difficult to provide the services that we do. Additionally, the Community Services Department also works with numerous ad-hoc committees and external organizations:

- Augusta Trails
- Augusta Tree Board
- Augusta Boys and Girls Club
- Strategic Communications Committee
- CARA (Capital Area Recreation Association)
- Conservation Commission
- Cunningham Park
- Mill Park Advisory Committee
- Dog Park

Health and Welfare Bureau

Leif Dahlin, Director

The General Assistance Program is available at Augusta City Center Monday through Friday to assist eligible people who are in need of basic necessities such as rent, fuel, electricity, food and medication. Services are available on a walk-in basis.

Below is the Augusta General Assistance Program Expenditures as reported to State of Maine Department of Health and Human Services.

The numbers tell it all with respect to the economy and the fact more people are in need of General Assistance. The financial assistance being provided to Augusta residents in need and eligible for assistance has grown significantly. Especially when compared to years prior to 2009 when annual distributions were \$80,000.00 and under for many years. The story of those in need goes far beyond the financial picture and the needs that go unmet. General assistance is a state mandated program wherein the City of Augusta is reimbursed for 50% by the State of Maine and the taxpayers of Augusta pay the other 50% through the property tax.

EXPENDITURES OF CLIENT SERVICES

<u>Line Item</u>	<u>FY 2014</u>	<u>FY 2013</u>	<u>Change</u>
Telephone	\$ 603.28	\$ 235.00	\$ 368.28
Electricity	\$ 9,225.73	\$ 5,445.59	\$ 3,780.14
Transportation	\$ 957.95	\$ 735.65	\$ 222.30
Transients	\$ 0.00	\$ 81.40	\$ (81.40)
Medical Supplies	\$ 1,770.92	\$ 209.83	\$ 1,561.09
Dental	\$ 735.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 735.00
Housing	\$191,337.18	\$124,781.48	\$ 68,116.79
Rooms	\$ 26,564.56	\$ 71,259.61	\$ (44,695.05)
Emergency Shelters	\$ 5,934.64	\$ 7,469.84	\$ (1,535.20)
Special & Misc.	\$ 2,639.16	\$ 432.11	\$ 2,207.05
Burials	\$ 7,325.00	\$ 12,300.00	\$ (4,975.00)
Fuel Oil	\$ 13,545.32	\$ 16,352.36	\$ (2,807.04)
Bottle Gas	\$ 197.97	\$ 0.00	\$ 197.97
Food/groceries	\$ 23,066.25	\$ 16,320.23	\$ 6,746.02
Wearing Apparel	\$ 647.07	\$ 0.00	\$ 647.07
Household Items	\$ 7,835.00	\$ 4,702.00	\$ (3,133.00)
RX	\$ 8,265.11	\$ 3,132.66	\$ 5,132.45
Household items	\$ 10,986.71	\$ 9,761.61	\$ 1,225.10
Diapers	\$ 1,054.83	\$ 712.00	\$ 342.83
OTC Meds.	\$ 9.80	\$ 100.59	\$ (90.79)
TOTAL	\$312,701.48	\$274,031.86	\$38,669.62

Lithgow Public Library

Betsy Pohl, Director

“Well may the friends of this institution be happy. They have planned for it and worked for it, in season and out of season, during these many years, and today witnesses the fulfillment of their hopes.”

~ Leslie Cornish, Lithgow Library Trustee, 1894.

In its 119th year of service to the community of Augusta, Lithgow Public Library:

- Attracted 119,200 visitors, a monthly average of almost 10,000 visits
- Circulated 166,520 books, periodicals, audiovisual items
- Recorded over 3,600 checkouts from the Maine InfoNet Download Library (digital audio books and eBooks)
- Provided 6,500 hours of usage on 8 public computers, plus walk-in wireless access
- Created and produced programs for infants, toddlers, preschoolers, children and teens, including story times, author events, craft programs, Lego events, concerts and intergenerational book discussions, attracting 4,725 children, parents and caregivers
- Signed up 442 participants (mainly children) in our Summer Reading Program, “We Are Building Something Here!”
- Sponsored music, poetry, craft and educational programs for adults; hosted book discussion groups and author events, and provided free computer and e-reader training to the public, with 1,417 participants
- Presented monthly outreach programs to residents of 5 elder care facilities, and 2 daycare centers, bringing library services to people unable to access the facility on their own
- Participated in on-line requesting of materials through Minerva and Maine Info Net, resulting in 34,869 interlibrary loan transactions
- Presented **A Capital Read 2014** in collaboration with the Viles Arboretum, with a variety of programs and visit from Bill Roorbach, the author of our selected book, Life Among Giants
- Supported the efforts of the Friends of Lithgow Library’s capital campaign to expand the library, recruiting volunteers for book sales and bake sales and helping with the Friends’ Facebook page
- Celebrated the outcome of a successful bond referendum that garnered an 82% “yes” vote
- Worked with architects from Johnson Roberts Associates to complete design development for the new library facility
- Cheered the success of the Friends’ capital campaign as they presented a \$2 million check to the city in December, to help finance the expanded Lithgow



Lithgow Public Library (cont.)

Photos: Top to bottom: Dr. Seuss birthday celebration, a concert in the Reading Room and Spring Spaghetti Sling at the Armory



Old Fort Western

Linda Novak, Director

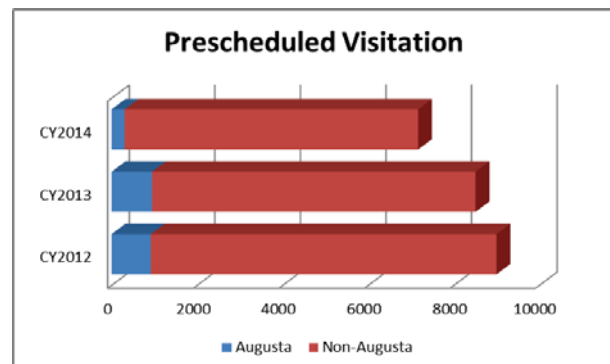
2014 visitation numbers (which include summer admissions, special fort events and prescheduled educational programs) at first glance appear to have leveled off from last year; however, as the chart above shows we are continuing to see a growing trend in admissions with the highest numbers of visitors to the Fort in years with 5322 individuals visiting the fort between Memorial Day and Columbus Day. This is an increase of 18% from 2013 and 22% from 2012 and 41% from 2011. The major point of origin of visitors coming to see Old Fort Western is still Maine and New England followed by the southeastern and mid-Atlantic United States.

OFW 2012-2014 Fort Special Events Comparison			
	2014	2013	2012
Memorial Day Weekend	115	182	110
R.B. Hall Day		525	400
Independence Day	403	605	500
Declaration of Independence	125	125	250
Hallowell Days		100	250
Rededication Tea		0	125
UMA Senior College		0	150
Encampment/Augusta Fest	442	425	0
Labor Day Weekend		125	60
Constitution Anniversary		0	70
Columbus Day Weekend	125	114	68
Friends & Family Open House		80	63
Armistice Day Weekend	150	64	0
Augusta Tree Lighting	1500	200	250
Total Special Events	2860	2610	2443

Included in this admissions data are the numbers from special events. These events are put on by the Fort free-of-charge to the public to promote community and goodwill. Among the special events held at the Fort this year, were the traditional Memorial Day Opening Weekend, the Declaration of Independence July 4th Celebration, Armistice/Veterans Day Celebration and the Augusta Holiday and Treelighting Event. Other events of note held in 2014 were the 2nd Annual French and Indian War Encampment in conjunction with AugustaFest, and the Columbus Day Weekend Revolutionary War Encampment in conjunction with a Hearth Cooking workshop at the Rueben Colburn House in Pittston.

OFW 2011-2014 Visitation Comparison				
Calendar Year January 1 st thru December 31 st				
	2014	2013	2012	2011
Admissions	5322	4382	4158	3162
Winter Lecture Series/Fort Specials	906	890	539	776
Summer App/Jr Interpreter	69	58	63	58
Pre-Scheduled Programs	7165	8507	8998	8677
	13,462	13,837	13,758	12,673

Prescheduled educational programming includes school and camp visitation. During 2014, 7,165 school students and summer campers visited the fort and participated in one or more of our many programs. *Daily Life in the 18th Century*, *A Day in the Life of a Fort Western Soldier*, and *Going Shopping in the 18th Century* continue to be our most popular programs. We have added a new interactive program *Fort Western, a Timeline Spanning Three Centuries* which is growing in popularity and showcases the importance of Fort Western to Maine, and New England History. Many thanks go to the Historic Interpretive staff for their professionalism and dedication to the fort and for the fantastic job they did over the last year. As the chart above indicates, visitation numbers for schools are down. The chart also shows a possible cause. Numbers from schools from outside the greater Augusta area stand firm while numbers from Augusta Schools have declined.



Old Fort Western (cont.)



Columbus Day Weekend In October, over Columbus Day Weekend, the Fort participated in a Revolutionary War Encampment at as well has hosted an 18th Century Hearth Cooking Workshop at the Colburn House in Pittston.

Old Fort Western hosted its Annual Silent Auction for the Old Fort Western Fund in December. The time change was well received and provided an opportunity for friends and family of the fort to do some holiday shopping. Participation from Augusta area businesses, especially the downtown, continues to grow and businesses from downtown Hallowell & Gardiner joined them. Through donations of goods and services and monetary donations \$2,775 was raised.

The Fort thanks all currently serving trustees, the Mayor and City Council, all Friends and volunteers of the fort, and all the residents of the City of Augusta for their continued support.

Below (Left to Right): Volunteerism: Irma Jo Wilhelm, Jane Coryell (Board Chair), and James Patenaude process artifacts from the Fort Richmond dig.



William “Bill” Fudge (1947-2014)

Please join the Fort in remembering William “Bill” Fudge, a history teacher for 36 years in Cleveland, Ohio, and beloved historical interpreter at the Fort since 2008 who passed away on January 15, 2014. (pictured right)



Auditing Bureau

Tracy Roy, Deputy Finance Director

The Audit Bureau oversees and administers the city's financial and accounting systems. This bureau is staffed by the Deputy Finance Director, Deputy Auditor and Clerk II. The Clerk position is budgeted under the Finance & Administration Department and works in both the Audit and City Clerk's office.

The bureau is responsible for reconciling bank statements, procurement cards, accounts receivable, accounts payable, capital assets, and other balance sheet accounts; as well as, monthly closing, training on the financial accounting system (Munis), and preparation for the audit.

During 2014 the bureau processed 5,023 accounts payable checks (7,137 checks were processed in 2013), 385 EFT's, 231 wire transfers and 193 1099's. The decrease in accounts payable checks is due to the implementation of a new system in 2014 utilizing city-wide purchasing cards. There were 4,499 transactions on the purchasing cards during March –December 2014.

Our goals are to continue to assist bureaus with the tracking of their financial information, to continue to receive a clean audit and to keep accounting controls in place as required by the city charter and federal and state laws. We always strive to ensure that accurate records are maintained for all city transactions.

Assessing Bureau

Lisa Morin, Assessor

During the 2014 calendar year, this office processed 629 deeds. The majority of the sales were single-family homes with an average sale price of \$125,000. There were 127 residential sales and 7 commercial sales during 2014. Based on the current ratio study for residential property, the average assessment ratio is 102% of market value.

This was the seventeenth year for the Maine Resident Homestead Property Tax Exemption. The total number of exemptions for this program was 4,932. The total valuation of all tax exemptions including veterans, blinds, parsonages and homesteads was \$42,974,400.

This office oversees 8,964 taxable real estate accounts with a total taxable value of \$1,576,565,600 (after exemptions) and 1,003 taxable personal property accounts with a total taxable value of \$101,176,400. In addition, \$23,917,700 in personal property now qualifies under the Maine Business Equipment Tax Exemption Program. We also have 465 real estate accounts, which are totally exempt with an assessed value of \$536,354,100.

**CITY OF AUGUSTA, MAINE BALANCE SHEET
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS**

	General	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 18,546,419	20,747	18,567,166
Investments			
Receivables:	11,027,739	484,836	11,512,575
Taxes	1,009,358		1,009,358
Tax liens	557,923		557,923
Due from other governments	405,094	1,087,349	1,492,443
Accounts receivable (net of allowance for uncollectibles)	366,952	29,887	396,839
Notes receivable		154,500	154,500
Interfund loans receivable		6,596,718	6,596,718
Inventory		165 35,073	35,238
Prepaid items	100,968	3,489	104,457
Total assets	\$ 32,014,618	8,412,599	40,427,217
LIABILITIES			
Accounts payable and other accrued liabilities	1,004,830	530,104	1,534,934
Accrued payroll and benefits	2,084,774	269,752	2,354,526
Escrow payable	9,200		9,200
Taxes received in advance	120,359		120,359
Interfund loans payable	12,466,212	194,305	12,660,517
Total liabilities	15,685,375	994,161	16,679,536
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES			
Unavailable revenue - property taxes	1,158,131		1,158,131
Total deferred inflows of resources	1,158,131		1,158,131
FUND BALANCES			
Nonspendable	101,133	725,560	826,693
Restricted	4,499,432	2,048,267	6,547,699
Committed		5,073,944	5,073,944
Assigned	4,381,640v		4,381,640
Unassigned - budget stabilization	1,200,000.		1,200,000
Unassigned	4,988,907.	(429,333)	4,559,574
Total fund balances	15,171,112	7,418,438	22,589,550
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and fund balances	\$ 32,014,618	8,412,599	

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position are different because:

Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.	55,178,941
Other long-term assets are not available to pay for current period expenditures and, therefore, are deferred in the funds,	1,158,131
Internal service funds are used by management to charge the costs of fleet management to individual funds. The assets and liabilities of the internal service funds are included in governmental activities in the statement of net position.	2,666,527
Long-term liabilities that are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the funds:	
Accrued compensated absences	(3,548,328)
Accrued interest	(211,141)
Other postemployment benefits	(7,863,007)
Capital leases	(2,174,038)
Bonds payable	(31,054,825)
Net position of governmental activities	\$ 36,741,810

City of Augusta, Maine
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance
Budget and Actual
General Fund

Current Expenditures:

	Budgeted amounts				Variance with final budget positive (negative)
		Original	Final	Actual	
Revenues:					
Taxes	\$	29,561,848	29,561,848	29,796,006	234,158
Licenses and permits		131,340	131,340	190,959	59,619
Intergovernmental		15,730,521	15,205,521	15,942,676	737,155
Tuition and other charges - education		850,000	850,000	806,501	(43,499)
Charges for services		1,607,410	1,607,410	1,783,333	175,923
Fees and fines		49,350	49,350	48,454	(896)
Unclassified		520,578	520,578	727,204	206,626
Investment earnings		267,600	267,600	136,379	(131,221)
Total revenues		48,718,647	48,193,647	49,431,512	1,237,865
Legislative and executive		538,243	601,612	630,217	(28,605)
Finance and administration		1,619,179	1,651,198	1,575,804	75,394
Development services		1,434,996	1,496,667	1,472,228	24,439
Community services		2,226,459	2,261,776	2,285,625	(23,849)
Public safety		8,241,619	8,356,371	8,156,722	199,649
Public works		3,378,057	3,520,136	3,376,435	143,701
Education		26,860,508	27,070,908	25,245,751	1,825,157
Retirement and insurance		2,744,742	2,744,742	2,723,701	21,041
Utilities		2,465,687	2,622,277	2,570,299	51,978
Unclassified		1,405,208	1,405,208	1,404,986	222
Debt service (excluding education)		989,890	989,890	898,014	91,876
Total expenditures		51,904,588	52,720,785	50,339,782	2,381,003
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures		(3,185,941)	(4,527,138)	(908,270)	3,618,868
Other financing sources (uses):					
Budgeted utilization of surplus - City		496,683	1,327,832		(1,327,832)
Budgeted utilization of surplus - Education		1,214,827	1,214,827		(1,214,827)
Use of prior year encumbrances - City			531,318		(531,318)
Use of prior year encumbrances - Education			210,400		(210,400)
Transfers to other funds			(231,670)	(1,431,670)	(1,200,000)
Transfers from other funds		1,646,891	1,646,891	1,566,891	(80,000)
Total other financing sources (uses)		3,358,401	4,699,598	135,221	(4,564,377)
Net change in fund balance - budgetary basis		172,460	172,460	(773,049)	(945,509)
Reconciliation to GAAP basis:					285,897
Add back: encumbrances expended in budgetary - City					88,075
Add back: encumbrances expended in budgetary - Education Change in reserves					1,044,226
Net change in fund balance - GAAP basis					645,149
Fund balance, beginning of year					14,525,963
Fund balance, end of year				\$	15,171,112

**City of Augusta Maine Statement of Net Assets
Proprietary Funds**

	Augusta Civic Center	Hatch Hill Landfill	Totals	Governmental Activi- ties Internal Service
ASSETS				
Current assets:				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 49,053		49,053	
Accounts receivable, net	133,766	131,364	265,130	
Interfund loans receivable		5,712,781	5,712,781	750,516
Prepaid expenses	3,397	35,234	38,631	4,261
Inventory	23,113		23,113	118,766
Total current assets	209,329	5,879,379	6,088,708	873,543
Noncurrent assets — Property, plant, and equipment:				
Land	390,000	62,034	452,034	
Buildings and improvements	9,467,288	23,372	9,490,660	161,362
Equipment and vehicles	420,870	923,321	1,344,191	5,290,888
Hatch Hill landfill system		4,538,758	4,538,758	
Less accumulated depreciation	(6,029,909)	(1,900,610)	(7,930,519)	(3,547, 720)
Total noncurrent assets	4,248,249	3,646,875	7,895,124	1,904,530
Total assets	4,457,578	9,526,254	13,983,832	2,778,073
LIABILITIES				
Current liabilities:				
Accounts payable	31,915	57,302	89,217	49,950
Accrued wages and benefits payable	2,698	1,327	4,025	1,413
Accrued compensated absences	88,202	33,024	121,226	60,183
Refundable deposits	26,340		26,340	
Interfund loans payable	399,498		399,498	
Current portion of bonds payable	226,315	485,000	711,315	
Current portion of capital leases payable	27,027		27,027	
Total current liabilities	801,995	576,653	1,378,648	111,546
Noncurrent liabilities:				
Bonds payable	1,357,905	2,425,000	3,782,905	
Capital leases	392,198		392,198	
Interim landfill closure accrual		514,055	514,055	
Accrued landfill closure and post closure costs		4,734,466	4,734,466	
Total noncurrent liabilities	1,750,103	7,673,521	9,423,624	
Total liabilities	2,552,098	8,250,174	10,802,272	111,546
Net Position				
Net investment in capital assets	2,244,804	736,875	2,981,679	1,904,530
Unrestricted	(339,324)	539,205	199,881	761,997
Total net position	\$ 1,905,480	1,276,080	3,181,560	2,666,527

CITY OF AUGUSTA, MAINE
Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets
Proprietary Funds
For the year ended June 30, 2014

Business-type Activities - Enterprise Funds

	Augusta Civic Center	Hatch Hill Landfill	Totals	Governmental Activities- Internal Service
Rental income	\$ 1,188,451		1,188,451	
Fees		2,662,101	2,662,101	1,987,809
Food and beverage sales	1,318,980		1,318,980	
Miscellaneous		8,128	8,128	1,707
Total operating revenues	2,507,431	2,670,229	5,177,660	1,989,516
Operating expenses:				
Personnel services	1,243,811	429,334	1,673,145	465,791
Contractual services	332,655	541,858	874,513	49,665
Supplies and materials	469,822	90,306	560,128	950,508
Fixed charges	31,487	242,896	274,383	2,977
Capital outlay	80,436	5,155	85,591	500
Depreciation	304,335	290,315	564,650	366,537
Total operating expenses	2,462,546	1,569,864	4,032,410	1,835,978
Operating income	44,885	1,100,365	1,145,250	153,538
Nonoperating revenue (expense):				
Interest income		157	157	
Interest expense	(147,928)	(197,498)	(345,269)	(18,768)
Gain (loss) on disposal of equipment				61,843
Total nonoperating revenue (expense)	(147,928)	(197,341)	(345,269)	43,075
Net income (loss) before transfers	(103,043)	903,024	799,981	196,613
Transfers:				
Transfer from (to) other funds	(59,960)	(48,477)	(108,437)	(28,298)
Total transfers	(59,960)	(48,477)	(108,437)	(28,298)
Change in net position	(163,003)	854,547	691,544	(168,315)
Total net position, beginning of year	2,068,483	421,533	2,490,016	2,498,212
Total net position, end of year	\$ 1,905,480	1,276,080	3,181,560	2,666,527

City Clerk/Treasurer's Office

Barbara Wardwell, City Clerk and Treasurer

Clerk's 2014 Statistics

	Number
Births Records	793 224*
Deaths Records	485 276*
Burial Permits	686
Marriage Intentions filed	155
Business License	244
Dogs Registered	1,995
*Augusta residents	

Treasurer's /Tax Collector's 2014 Statistics

Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

	Amount	Transactions
Boat Excise Tax	\$11,590.70	747
Boat Registration & Milfoil Fees	\$20,489.00	628
ATV Registration Fees	\$ 5,907.00	179
Snowmobile Registration Fees	\$ 4,480.00	112
Fish & Game Licenses	\$20,667.80	

Bureau of Motor Vehicles

	Amount	Transactions
Auto Excise Tax	\$3,168,557.90	14,706
Registration Fees (BMV)	\$ 559,321.05	14,153
Sales Tax	\$ 210,272.22	1,325
Title Fees	\$ 40,986.00	1,243
Rapid Renewal Program (online excise)	\$ 452,601.40	2,971

Property Taxes Assessed April 1, 2014

	Number	Amount
Real Estate	8,964	\$29,434,483.59
Personal Property	1,003	\$ 1,888,963.89
	9,967	\$31,323,447.48
Tax Clubs	435	\$ 864,340.89
Tax Liens	459	\$ 720,321.15

Human Resources

Kristy Gould, Director

The Human Resources Bureau is responsible for supporting a number of key areas including employee recruitment, compensation and benefits, employee development, employee relations, labor relations, records management, payroll, supervisory counseling, and health & safety. These functions are performed for 240 regular full and part-time employees and 200± seasonal and intermittent part-time employees.

The Bureau also provides contracted payroll, benefits and general HR services to the Greater Augusta Utility District and the Augusta Housing Authority. Significant priorities and projects of Human Resources in 2014 included:

Labor relations. Our priority is to address any issues between management and labor as quickly and positively as possible, and this resulted in only a handful of formal grievances being filed again this year. In 2014 we successfully negotiated three-year agreements with all eight of our bargaining units, in negotiations that were amicable, professional and handled quickly. This results in welcome stability and predictability for the City and its employees for the near future.

Benefits Administration. All of the City's employees have been transitioned to the new medical plan offerings. The focus in 2014 was on education and assisting employees with understanding and best utilizing their benefits in a cost-effective way. We plan to continue these efforts in 2015 and will look for additional ways to control costs and increase employee wellness. We also continue to monitor developments related to the Affordable Care Act and other factors that impact the City, our employees and our retirees.

Focus on safety. Again this year the efforts of our employees have been recognized by achieving a very low injury rating, high risk management audit scores and have a great deal of positive feedback. This has been an important factor in maintaining stable worker's compensation premiums. The dedicated representatives on the city-wide safety team have continued working diligently to keep our employees safe and our costs low, and all employees deserve thanks for their efforts to keep safety a high priority.

Recruiting and hiring. Human Resources continues to see a high volume of candidates for each available opening, indicating that we are seen as a favored employer in our area. Recruiting and selecting the most talented workforce to perform the City's needs is a high priority. In 2014, we received and processed 1,443 applications for 43 different open positions. Human Resources is involved in every step of the hiring and recruitment process, from researching the most effective search methods to orientation of newly hired employees.

Development of staff and supervisors. Despite a limited training budget, Human Resources continues to provide and coordinate training in certain key areas of development and mandatory compliance, including supervisory orientation and sexual harassment prevention. In 2014, Human Resources continued to facilitate a number of classes which were previously outsourced, such as supervisory development and many safety-related topics. We use all possible resources to offer a wide variety of training at very little cost.

The mission of the Human Resources Bureau is to provide effective, positive support to our employees in a friendly manner. We continue work to strengthen the relationships that will allow us to assist management and employees with the valuable work they do for the City of Augusta every day.

Information Technology Bureau

Fred Kahl, Network Administrator

Purpose/Mission Statement

The purpose of the Information Systems Bureau is to provide City employees with the productivity tools offered by current information technology in a cost effective manner while protecting them from the risks involved in the use of that technology.

Goals and Objectives

- Assure strategic planning and coordination of information technologies as adopted by the City/School Department.
- Maintain the hardware and software systems in order to provide accessibility to City/School staff on a daily basis
- Provide timely support to the user community when difficulties arise in the use of the systems.
- Ensure that there will be no employee work loss due to system failure.
- Ensure that the computer network and phone system are secure from malicious internal and external attacks, thus maintaining the privacy and integrity of the City's data.
- Replacement of failing and antiquated equipment.

Accomplishments

- Replace 15 year old analog phone system with a new IP system for both City and Schools. Eliminate all remote phone systems and connect all building to new system.
- Create a secondary Dispatch Center at City Center
- Develop and award proposal for replace of School Department Wireless and Switching system.
- Install Security System (Panic Buttons) for School Department Buildings
- Create Hyper-V farm to replace aging servers for City
- Replace and upgrade Financial software for City and Schools
- Expand Wireless Internet system at the Augusta Civic Center
- Create & Configure Mass Storage / Backup systems spanning multiple buildings using fiber network & Cloud Services to ensure disaster survivability.
- Continue expansion of fiber network to supply service to all city facilities.
- Deliver IT services to the **Greater Augusta Utility District** and **Augusta Housing Authority**.
- Assist School Department in developing a plan to replace aging Student technology.
- Replace all Photocopy and Printing equipment.
- Assist Lithgow Library with technology for temporary building.

Fire Department

Roger Audette, Fire Chief

Mission Statement

We, the members of the Augusta Fire Department, are dedicated professionals committed to safely serving our community by protecting life, property and the environment through prevention, education and emergency services.

I am pleased to present this summary of Fire Department activities for the fiscal year 2014. The year was one of the busiest ever for the Fire Department with respect to training requirements and emergency response. The department responded to 6,117 calls for service. There were 1,510 fire calls and 4,607 calls for EMS representing 75.31% of our responses. Of these EMS calls 3,577 patients were transported by the Fire Department. With approximately 81% of those patients going to Maine General Medical Center, 12% going to local facilities and the remainder going to hospitals greater than 20 miles away.

Department Training

In 2014 the Fire Department worked toward achieving goals in the areas of officer training, basic firefighter training, driver/operator, roadway safety, ice water rescue, vehicle extrication, advanced cardiac care and Hazardous Materials.

- Four firefighters completed the Fire Officer I & II program.
- Two members obtained National Fire Safety Officer Certification
- Completed an Advanced Cardiac Life Support Program
- Completed a Pediatric Advanced Life Support Program
- Completed a tactical EMS program for active shooter incidents
- Four firefighters completed Aircraft Rescue Firefighting Certification
- Four members attended programs at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg Maryland
- The members of the Augusta Fire Department attended over 200 classes totaling 6,547 hours of training.

Fire Prevention & Education Programs

Annually, members provide many valuable programs in the community. Traditional programs related to fire safety are provided to elderly complexes and schools during fire prevention week. Fire extinguisher training is ongoing throughout the year. Members of our department have worked with the local schools to purchase Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs). Certified CPR and First Aid programs were offered in local businesses and schools.



Fire Department (cont.)

Response Statistics

	<u>FY10</u>	<u>FY11</u>	<u>FY12</u>	<u>FY13</u>
Fire Responses	1074	1,234	1,226	1,475
EMS Responses	4,503	4,166	4,424	4,625
Totals	5,577	5,400	5,650	6,100

Estimated dollar loss from fires in 2013-14 was \$1.1 million.

There were 11-major fires throughout the City which resulted in two civilian injuries and one fatality.

Other Highlights

The Department maintained the Heartsafe Community Status

Awarded a \$503,000 Safer Act Grant for four additional firefighters (Two-year term)

Added two firefighter/paramedic positions

Completed energy upgrades to Hartford Fire Station that included solar panel and new heating and air-conditioning systems.

Received grants from the Homeland Security Program, Firefighter's Assistance Program and the Maine Municipal Association.

Continued to foster relationships with mutual aid departments for training and purchasing of equipment.



In closing, I want to say that I am so proud to represent such a fine group of dedicated professional firefighters. They are committed to serving this community and answering any challenge they face in a safe manner. I would also like to thank all the support from the community and the City Council.

Police Department

Robert Gregoire, Police Chief

Mission Statement: To establish and maintain a partnership with governmental agencies, businesses and citizens of the community to provide a safe environment in which the quality of life may be improved through the delivery of competent, fair and impartial services.

Message from the Chief: Drug use and abuse continues to be at the forefront of criminal activity in the State of Maine for 2014. Kennebec County and specifically Augusta are the areas hardest hit by this trend. Drug use and abuse appears to be major causation of the current crime trends of burglaries and thefts. While the City of Augusta still experiences an occasional pharmacy robbery, they have still decreased since their height in 2012. Domestic Violence and Abuse is still an ongoing issue in our community. We as a police department are active in our intervention and enforcement of domestic violence crimes. I am proud of the quality of personnel we have and the work product that the police department staff produces.

The purpose of the Augusta Police Department is to provide, without prejudice, the highest degree of service and commitment to the citizens and visitors of Augusta. Foremost in this mission, is the protection of life and property. Specifically officers are responsible for the maintenance of peace; enforcement of laws and ordinances; the detection, identification and apprehension of criminals; the prevention and investigation of crimes; regulations of traffic and the performance of any service that will improve the quality of life by providing for the security and safety of Augusta citizens.

Crime Statistics at a glance:

The crime statistic below are not all inclusive of crimes handled by the Augusta Police Department, but crimes that are required to be reported to the FBI. * Not required to be reported to FBI. These numbers are drawn from the record management system and may not reflect the final totals reported by the State of Maine.

2012		2013		2014	
Homicide	1	Homicide	1	Homicide	0
Rape	17	Rape	22	Rape	20
Robbery	27	Robbery	16	Robbery	24
Aggravated Assault	62	Aggravated Assault	51	Aggravated Assault	74
Assault	500	Assault	485	Assault	493
Burglary	249	Burglary	220	Burglary	136
Theft	911	Theft	950	Theft	974
Motor vehicle theft	29	Motor vehicle theft	32	Motor vehicle theft	21
Arson	13	Arson	5	Arson	10
Domestic Violence	221	Domestic Violence	209	Domestic Violence	209
*Drug Offenses	196	*Drug Offenses	182	*Drug Offenses	269
*Vehicle Stops	5637	*Vehicle Stops	4450	*Vehicle Stops	4615

Police Department (cont.)

Reports:

2012 Reports		2013 Reports		2014 Reports	
Investigative	3951	Investigative	3886	Investigative	3816
Arrest	1662	Arrest	1794	Arrest	1835
Crash	1093	Crash	1210	Crash	1190
Traffic Summons	1335	Traffic Summons	1312	Traffic Summons	1543

Communications Center: The Augusta Police Department communication center services Augusta Police and Fire/EMS as well as Hallowell Police and Fire.

Calls for service: 43,000+

Augusta Police Calls: 38,000+

The Augusta Police Calls for service does not reflect all the work of the Augusta Police Department. A majority of the calls for service are a result of patrol division responsibilities.

Awards and Commendations:

Commendatory Letter

Sergeant Christian Behr
Detective Eric DosSantos
Officer Anthony Drouin
Dispatcher Jason Joler

Officer Scott Taylor
Officer Nathan Walker
Sergeant Vicente Morris
Dispatcher Aaron Farrell

Community Events:

The police department assisted in planning and/or participated in the following events.

Fourth of July Parade and Fireworks	Salvation Army Kettle Drive
Day in the Park	Special Olympics Maine
United Bikers of Maine - Motorcycle Toy Run	DEA Prescription Drug Collection Day
Kennebec River Rail Trail Half Marathon and 5K	Augustafest
Salvation Army Christmas Adopt-a-family	Holiday Tree Lighting
ALS Ice Bucket Challenge	Law Enforcement Memorial
Special Olympics Torch Run	Book Readings at schools/children's centers
ESM Golf Tournaments	

Active Military Service Members:

The Augusta Police Department is proud to support our military service members.

Officer Brad Chase - Maine Air National Guard (military rank – Staff Sergeant) – Officer Chase returned in the fall of 2014 from his deployment to Oman in Southwest Asia.

Police Department (cont.)

Detective Eric DosSantos has separated from Army Reserves. This decision was made for his family as he is expecting his fourth child and would like to spend more time at home. His fourteen year career included two deployments to Afghanistan. He received 2 Bronze Stars, 2 Army Commendation Medals, 3 Army Achievement Medals, 3 Army Reserve Component Achievement Medals, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with two Campaign Stars, Global War on Terrorism Medal, Army Service Ribbon, 2 Overseas Service Ribbons, Army Reserve Component Overseas Training Ribbon, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with M Device, NATO Medal, and Air Assault Badge. Detective DosSantos has indicated he may reenlist to finish his twenty year career once his children get older.

Grants awarded to the police department

Bulletproof Vest Partnership	\$ 4,343.95
2014 Justice Assistance Grant	\$22,703.00
2014 IF&W Spring Round of ATV Enforcement	\$ 2,000.00
2014 Bureau of Highway Safety - Teen Safety Grant	\$ 4,800.00
2014 Bureau of Highway Safety - High Visibility Impaired Driving Program	\$10,000.00
2014 Bureau of Highway Safety - Seatbelt Enforcement	\$ 3,000.00
2014 Bureau of Highway Safety - Speed Enforcement Campaign	\$ 5,000.00
2014 Bureau of Highway Safety – Underage Drinking Enforcement and Education	\$ 4,500.00
2014 Southern Kennebec Underage Drinking (Multi-agency)	\$18,500.00

Accomplishments

The new department structure was formally adopted combining the Criminal Investigations Division and the Records/Communications Division naming it the Support Services Division. Several benefits to this new structure have already been proven which enabled us to provide a more consistent and efficient service.

In September of 2014 Officer Carly Smith began as the School Resource Officer for the Augusta Schools.

- R.A.D. (Rape Aggression Defense) is still being offered by Officer Smith who is now the School Resource Officer (SRO). She is in the planning phase of bringing it to schools with the assistance of Officer Brad Chase who will also be trained.
- History search. We have been conducting a history search of the Augusta Police Department as very little is known. We have received good response from the community. Sergeant Christian Behr has put together a room at the police department with all of our history memorabilia along with providing community talks on the topic and creating a temporary display at the City Center.
- We have added several new policies to our policy manual.
- We have maintained the Augusta Police Department Facebook page and recently created a Twitter account. This allows us to distribute police department information out to the public. This also allows us to solicit information from the public. We have been able to solve several crimes by placing information on the Facebook and Twitter.
- We have established an annual employee recognition program that occurs during our Christmas Party in early December.

Police Department (cont.)

- The Communications Division has established a solid list of Reserve Dispatchers who can be used to fill any over-time shifts that are not wanted by the fulltime staff. The Reserve Dispatchers can also be hired as fulltime staff as a result of an unexpected vacancy.
- Our patrol fleet is almost completely swapped over to SUV's retiring all but two patrol cars.

Goals for 2015

- Continue to address the workload for police officers and dispatchers.
- Assign an officer to solve neighborhood issues that arise in order to reduce crime. This person would be the point of contact for neighborhood watch groups and develop community outreach programs.
- Enhance our relationship with outside organizations to combat Human Trafficking, drug use, abuse and addiction in order to reduce crime.
- Build a part-time dispatching pool that will work extra shifts that full-time dispatchers do not want.
- Introduce a solvability chart and detective case tracking chart.
- Continue the Patrol Investigator's position.
- Continue to complete the policy manual.



Central Garage

Scott Kenoyer, Fleet Service Manager

The Central Garage operation is an Intrасervice Fund. The majority of revenues come from rental/maintenance of vehicles to various city departments and sale of fuel. Revenues are used to pay for vehicle maintenance, repairs and replacement when they reach the end of their useful life. The Fleet Service Manager is responsible for all aspects of the Central Garage which includes the fleet and the buildings and grounds at the Public Works Facility. Other Central Garage personnel include a working foreman, four (4) technicians, a parts person and an Administrative Assistant who is also shared equally within the Streets and Solid Waste Bureaus.

Central Garage is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of approximately 120 pieces of their own equipment, plus equipment owned by Solid Waste and Parks & Cemetery Department. Central Garage purchases approximately \$400,000 worth of replacement vehicles/equipment annually. Decisions on what vehicles will be purchased are based on an equipment replacement schedule which is used as a guide. This schedule evaluates which vehicles are due for replacement based on the actual condition of the vehicle and the needs of the various departments we serve which can change depending on the services being provided to our citizens.



In 2014 a new heated 90' x 140' storage facility was built. This new building was a collaborative effort by the Fire, Police, Parks/Recreation and Public Works departments. Both an existing older heated storage building and this new one allows for most emergency and regular equipment to be stored in secure, heated buildings at Public Works. For Police and Fire their front line equipment is stored at their operations buildings; this changes seasonally and they swap out equipment as needed from the easily accessible storage at Public Works.

In FY14, the Central Garage Reserve Fund had sufficient funds to purchase the following equipment:



- ¾ Ton 4x4 pickup w/plow
- Class 8 plow truck w/side dump body
- 3 yd. Loader
- 1 ton 4x4 w/plow
- Curb Machine (so Public Works can construct our own street curbing)
- Equipment Trailer (to haul various pieces of Public Works equipment, such as skid steer loaders, curb machine, sidewalk roller, etc.)
- Asphalt Tack Wagon (to help get better adhesion of new pavement or patch to an existing surface)

Street Bureau

Jerry Dostie, Street Superintendent

The Public Works budget for fiscal year 2014 totaled \$3.48 million. Major services provided include: rubbish/recycling curbside collection, year round maintenance of all city streets and sidewalks – plowing and sanding, sweeping, patching, street and regulatory signs, street and crosswalk striping as well as the annual paving program. The installation of natural gas lines throughout the City continued. This required working with the companies to approve the locations of their mains within the right of ways and ensuring that the proper traffic control measures were adequate to protect the public during the construction process.

Street and Sidewalk Sweeping

This spring's program involves the cleanup of winter sand that had accumulated on the 300+ lane miles of streets from the winter. This year it began April 16th. The main arterials are the first streets swept and then the remaining streets are swept on a four-week rotating schedule. In addition to the roadways, the sidewalks on the main arterial roadways are also swept.

Spring Repairs

The pothole season in 2014 was difficult as the pavement on many of the city's main thoroughfares was nearing the end of its expected life. This combined with numerous "spring" freeze/thaw cycles produced an above normal pothole season. Crews spent a great deal of time and materials dealing with these potholes. Fortunately many of these roads (both State and City roads) have either been repaved or are scheduled to be repaved this year. Crews also worked into late May repairing lawns, guardrails, fences and any other damages that resulted from snow plowing/removal operations. Some ice storm brush cleanup from trees within the right of way also occurred.

Street and Crosswalk Painting

Once the weather warmed up and the streets had been swept, a street-striping firm was hired to repaint centerlines, edge lines and white skips on the city streets and roads. This started in mid-May. The contractor and Public Works crews also painted all crosswalks, arrows and parking stalls, this was completed by mid-summer. Upgrades to street signage continued with replacing old signs to meet current federal standards. The new street name sign standards require larger lettering in both upper and lower case and all signs are required to meet new increased reflectivity standards.

Construction and Paving Season The construction and paving season started in early May and ended in mid - November. Some of these projects included:

Court Street - this work was a joint project between Public Works and Maine Natural Gas (MNG). MNG installed a

Street Bureau (cont.)

new gas main in the sidewalk and was required to restore the sidewalk. The street along this portion of sidewalk was in need of an overlay. Both entities worked together and the finished product was a newly paved street with a new sidewalk.

Mill Street – this project included the reconstruction of the lower portion of this street near Mount Vernon Avenue. During the previous winter, the Greater Augusta Utility District (GAUD) experienced a water main break which caused a significant amount of damage to the road. The street and sidewalk were rebuilt by Public Works crews and all associated costs were paid by the GAUD.

Patterson Street – this included the total reconstruction of School Street between Bangor Street and Pearl Street. The Public Works Department reconstructed this street after the GAUD installed new water, sewer, and storm drains.

School Street — this project was completed with the installation of surface pavement, loam and seed. This project was a joint effort with the GAUD which had installed new utilities in the roadway the previous year

Water Street – Another section of sidewalks in the portion of Water Street between the entrances into the Rines Hill and Railroad Parking Lots and Green Street were reconstructed. Also included in this work was the installation of ornamental street lighting.

Street Paving – new surface pavement was installed on the following roads: Court Street (between Chapel and Sewall), Easy Street, Mount Vernon Road (between Leighton Road and Stony Brook Road), Mud Mill Road, Parkview Street, Powhatten Street, and Stony Brook Road (between Leighton Road and Mount Vernon Road).

Alternative Pavement Treatments – Chip seals were installed on Chapel Street (between Winthrop Street and Western Avenue) and the Eight Rod Road (from Old Belgrade Road to Dumont Drive). This technique involves applying a layer of liquid asphalt on top of the existing pavement existing pavement followed by a layer of crushed stone that that is then compacted. This creates a new wearing course and is less costly than traditional hot mix pavement.

New Sidewalks & Curb – installed on Court Street, Winthrop Street, Patterson Street (as part of the street reconstruction), and Water Street (as discussed above).

Significant Road Repairs – As begun in 2012, in 2014 we continued the use of the wheel rut patch unit in an attempt to extend the life of some roadway pavements and reduce winter maintenance costs, City crews constructed a unit (nicknamed “the WT1000”) to be used to fill severe wheel ruts on a number of roads in an attempt to extend the life of the roadway pavements and reduce winter and spring maintenance costs by providing a smoother surface and reducing the potential for potholes. On certain roads such as the Church Hill and Lipman Roads, the unit was used in advance of the resurfacing the road. This resulted in a reduction of the overall amount of pavement necessary to pave these roads as compared to the conventional practice of installing a “leveling course” and then a “wearing course”. Savings were estimated to be 22% and 38% respectively on these two roads. This unit was also used on other roads to fill in severe wheel ruts on the Northern Avenue, Townsend Road, Capitol Street (on the hill near Sewall Street), Western Avenue (near the former KJ), and Civic Center Drive (near the I-95 overpass).

Roadside Vegetation Control – A contractor was hired to provide herbicide control for city streets and sidewalks. This was done to protect the pavement from the damage that is caused by weeds. The city also mowed the side of the roads with a sickle bar mower and rented a unit that provided further reach to prevent encroachment into the right-of-ways by trees and brush. This adds to the safety of the roadways by increasing sight lines and allows more sun to reach the pavement in the winter time as the rays from the sun assist with the melting of snow and ice. This year all the main thoroughways were done and the west side neighborhoods. The east side neighborhoods will be done next year as part of an alternating schedule.

Street Bureau (cont.)

Other Miscellaneous Projects – City crews replaced culverts and ditching on numerous roads to address drainage issues. This work was done on portions of Bolton Hill Road, Church Hill Road, Cross Hill Road, Cony Road, Leighton Road, Middle Road, and Spring Road. Public Works also performed work for other departments including a temporary repair to the rear parking lot of the Civic Center, excavation for new playground equipment at the Capitol Park and Eastside Boat Landing Playgrounds, excavation for new bleachers, bathrooms, and concession stands at Alumni Field, and paving of the apron at the Wells Fire Station. Department including the preparation of the site area for the new multi-department storage building located at the Public Works facility, assisting the Fire Department on several fire scenes, assisting the Police Department by expanding their police vehicle parking area at the Police Station, assisting the School Department with drainage issues at Hussey and Cony High Schools, and assisting the Parks and Cemeteries Bureau with numerous projects including the reconstruction of the Mill Park parking lot, grading of ball fields and the access road into the Bond Brook Recreational Area, and the re-location of the Bus Depot from Market Square to the Railroad Bed lot near the Memorial Bridge.

Winter of 2013-2014

This winter season can be summed as being a “long, cold winter” with several Polar Vortex blasts of cold air. It was slightly below normal for snowfall with 65 1/2” with the last winter major snow event occurring on April 16th. There were 35 events throughout the winter which ranged from several freezing rain events to a few large snow events. A summary of the major highlights of the winter include:

15 full plowing operations

27 1/2 nights of snow haul

Rubbish/Recycling and other special curbside collections

Collection services are offered by providing recycling one week of the month with rubbish collection on all other weeks. These services along with a four (4) week Fall Leaf Collection were offered again to residents as services funded from property taxes. The Spring Clean Up of bulky items and Spring Leaf Collection were eliminated during the budget process. Residents continue to be dedicated recyclers as 5% of the City’s residential waste is either recycled or composted.

Household Hazardous Waste Day

On Saturday, May 17th, the Household Hazardous Waste (HHHW) Collection Day was held at Public Works, in conjunction with KVCOG and ten other communities. 222 units of HHHW were collected as well as unwanted medications and Universal Waste (TV and computer monitors).

Request for Services

1192 telephone calls requesting services were logged between 7:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. The requests vary depending on the time of the year from plowing/sanding to floods to questions related to the rubbish and recycling collection.

Public Works

Lesley Jones, P.E., Director



In addition to the landfill, Hatch Hill also operates a recycling program. The table below summarizes the materials brought into Hatch Hill for disposal in the landfill or for recycling. It should be noted that in 2013 there was not any recycling of construction/demolition wood as the mill that had been burning our wood chips stopped taking materials from municipal recycling programs. Fortunately another outlet for these wood chips has been secured and this part of the recycling program will start back up in 2014.

2013 Hatch Hill Annual Tonnage Report			
Materials In and Out			
Materials out for Recycling	Tons	Materials brought into Hatch Hill	Tons
Wood Chips (incl. Christmas trees)	241	Landfilled	
Tin Cans	21	Rubbish	29226
Old Corrugated Cardboard	37	Auto Shredder Residue	11602
Compost	289	(used as alternate daily cover)	
Glass	14	Special wastes	418
Scrap metal	272	Total tons into landfill	41246
Newspaper/magazine mix	179		
Milk jugs	8	Household recyclables	465
Old propane tanks	1	Tires for recycling	50
Old asphalt shingles	1685	Demolition/Construction wood	215
Old tires	67	Asphalt shingles	1759
Universal waste (TV's and e-waste)	66	Brush and natural wood waste	237
		Leaves/garden waste for composting	367
		Propane tanks (units)	182
Total Recycling	2880	Total tons stored and shipped out for recycling	3093



Augusta School Department

James Anastasio, Superintendent of Schools

The Augusta School Department continues to be a vibrant organization that employs over 600 full and part time people and provides educational opportunities to just over 2200 students. Those students represent the entire socioeconomic spectrum and speak 16 different languages at home. The opportunities and challenges presented by such a diverse population are welcomed by the extremely professional employees that are found at all levels of the School Department. Teaching and learning is the focus as the school department addresses the needs of students and adults that attend programs from Pre-K through adulthood. The citizens of Augusta should be proud of the Augusta School Department and the many programs that are offered at all schools and all levels for a very diverse clientele.

Cony Middle and High School

2014 was an eventful year for Cony! Since the close of our two middle schools, our school staff and students have been working toward a unified school for grades 7 to 12. As we continue to get to know each other and focus on the needs of each age group, we have made great strides in feeling like one school. Our school spirit has never been higher. We sing our school song at every event to show the pride that we have about Cony. The climate of acceptance and appreciation improves with every year through the amazing work of our staff and students. We welcomed a number of students from Iraq over the year which has enriched the student body.

We have several changes that we are adapting to this year. A new law was passed to require schools to issue proficiency-based diplomas. The idea is that students must demonstrate proficiency before they can receive a diploma from a Maine high school. Our staff has been working on aligning our curriculum to the Maine Learning Results (with the Common Core embedded in them). The staff is also working toward creating a system of instruction and assessment for students to demonstrate their proficiency in each of the eight content standards and Guiding Principles of the Maine Learning Results.

Another change in our schools is that the state has changed the assessment system for students. Instead of the NECAP and SAT, the state is requiring all schools to administer the MEA previously known as Smarter Balanced Assessments. Our staff has had some training and is preparing to administer the test for students in grades 7, 8, and 11th.

We continue to enjoy the rich academic experience that we provide at Cony. Our professional development has centered around proficiency based learning focusing on standards, instruction, and assessment. We have created partnerships with a variety of organizations in our community to help serve our students. We have collaborations with Kennebec Behavioral Health, Spurwink, Augusta Boys and Girls Club, United Way, Family Planning, University of Maine at Augusta, and have recently developed a new collaboration with the YMCA. The programming with the YMCA is around developing leadership skills in our middle school students. We hosted the 123rd Chizzle Wizzle last year which was a HUGE success. We are looking forward to the 124th Chizzle Wizzle on March 17-20 where the theme is “Bright Lights, Big City.”

To keep our students and families informed about events at Cony, we created a “Cony MS and HS” page on *Facebook*. Other ways to get information about the school is on the front page of Cony’s webpage, the announcements under the student tab on Cony’s webpage, and/or the kiosk at the South Belfast entrance to Cony.

We have many active parent organizations at Cony through our Sports Boosters, Music Boosters, Team Representatives, and the Middle School parent group. We welcome the support and involvement of all of our families. As we reflect on 2014, we look forward to 2015 with excitement and inspiration. We believe that there is no better job than working with the youth of our community.

Augusta School Department

James Anastasio, Superintendent of Schools

Cony Athletic Awards 2014

FALL

FIELD HOCKEY

KVAC ALL ACADEMIC – **Arika Brochu, Madeline Lewis, Rebecca Coniff, Madeline Lewis**

KVAC FIRST TEAM – **Arika Brochu, Madeline Reny**

KVAC SECOND TEAM – **Delaney Keithley**

KVAC PLAYER OF YEAR – **Arika Brochu**

ALL STATE – **Arika Brochu, Madeline Reny**

MISS MAINE FINALIST – **Arika Brochu**

BOYS SOCCER

KVAC ALL CONFERENCE – **Conner Perry**

GIRLS SOCCER

KVAC ALL CONFERENCE - **Autumn Sudsbury**

ALL STATE – **Autumn Sudsbury**

FOOTBALL

ALL PINE TREE CONFERENCE FIRST TEAM – **Mitchell Caron, Tayler Carrier, Reid Shostak**

SECOND TEAM – **Anthony Brunelle, Elias Younes, Elijah Tobey**

ALL STATE - **Tayler Carrier, Mitchell Caron**

FITZY SEMI- FINALIST – **Tayler Carrier**

GOLF

ALL KVAC – **Ben Leet, Iris Alexander**

CROSS COUNTRY

ALL STATE, KVAC RUNNER OF YEAR, KVAC CHAMPION, EASTERN REGIONAL SECOND PLACE, STATE MEET THIRD PLACE – **Anne Guadalupi**

SECOND TEAM ALL KVAC – **Andrew Levesque**

WINTER

WRESTLING

EASTERN A RUNNERS-UP

STATE MEET SECOND PLACE, KVAC FIRST PLACE, REGIONALS FIRST PLACE, KVAC FIRST TEAM – **Nic Benner**

STATE SECOND PLACE, REGIONAL FIRST PLACE, KVAC FIRST TEAM – **Zeko Claudill**

FIRST TEAM EASTERN REGIONAL – **Elias Younes**

KVAC THIRD PLACE, REGIONALS SECOND PLACE, STATES THIRD PLACE, KVAC SECOND TEAM – **Griffin Richards**

SWIMMING

KJ SWIMMERS OF THE YEAR – **Noah Aube, Anne Guadalupi**

Augusta School Department (cont.)

KVAC ALL CONFERENCE SWIMMERS – **Kaylee McNeff, Anne Guadalupe, Noah Aube, Molly Silsby, Arika Silsby**

GIRLS BASKETBALL

KVAC FIRST TEAM, KJ PLAYER OF YEAR, MCDONALD'S ALL STAR – **Emily Quirion**

KVAC SECOND TEAM – **Haley Quirion**

ICE HOCKEY

ALL STATE – FIRST TEAM – **Austin Davis**

ALL STATE – SECOND TEAM – **Zach Gagne**

SENIOR ALL STAR GAME - **Zach Gagne, Austin Davis**

HOBEBY BAKER AWARD - **Zach Gagne**

KVAC SECOND TEAM – **Austin Davis**

SPRING

BOYS LACROSSE

KVAC FIRST TEAM – **John Bennett**

KVAC SECOND TEAM – **Bronson Kieltyka, Sean Zubrod**

KVAC COACH OF YEAR – **Chad Foye**

TRACK

FIRST TEAM KVAC 100M HURDLES, 300 METER HURDLES, 4X100 RELAY, THIRD STATE 100 METER HURDLES , FIFTH STATE 300 METER HURDLES – **Madeline Reny**

FIRST TEAM KVAC 4X100 METER RELAY, SECOND TEAM KVAC 4X800M RELAY – **Courtney King**

SECOND TEAM KVAC 4X 800M RELAY, SECOND TEAM KVAC 3200M RUN, KJ FIRST TEAM 1600M RUN, KJ FIRST TEAM 3200M RUN – **Anne Guadalupi**

FIRST TEAM, KVAC 4X100 RELAY – **Alison Plant**

SECOND TEAM 4X800M RELAY - **Lindsay Watts**

FIRST TEAM KVAC 4X100M RELAY – **Sarah Smith**

SECOND TEAM KVAC JAVELIN, FOURTH CLASS A – **Matt Canwell**

SECOND TEAM KVAC POLE VAULT – **Nic Bolduc**

GIRLS LACROSSE

KJ PLAYER OF YEAR – **Hayley Quirion**

KVAC FIRST TEAM – **Emily Quirion, Hayley Quirion, Bayleigh Logan**

KVAC SECOND TEAM – **Isabelle Eames, Alexis Dostie**

BASEBALL

UNDERCLASSMEN ALL STAR GAME - **Tayler Carrier**

KVAC SECOND TEAM – **Mitchell Caron**

SENIOR ALL STAR GAME – **Peyton Kennison**

Augusta School Department (cont.)

Capital Area Technical Center (CATC)

The Capital Area Technical Center (CATC) is one of twenty-six regional technical education centers that provide career and technical education to high school students. Approximately 375 students from Cony, Maranacook, Hall-Dale, Gardiner, Richmond, and Winthrop High Schools as well as Erskine and Monmouth Academies attend CATC. Fifteen programs including Auto Collision, Auto Technology, Building Construction, Business Academy, Certified Nursing Assistant, Computer Technology, Early Childhood Education, Electrical Technology, Graphic Design, Law Enforcement, Machine Tool, Med/Vet Terminology, Plumbing and Heating, and Welding are taught at CATC. In addition to classroom instruction and projects assigned by program instructors, students also do “live work” projects. Live work is authentic work/jobs that students bring in or that community member’s request students to do in their classes.

Third party assessments are administered to all of the students at CATC. Third party assessments are tests designed by a professional agency or association which evaluates the professional skills and knowledge of students in the field that they are studying. Last year 684 professional certifications and certificates were earned by CATC students. These certifications and certificates are required of professionals working in a particular field.

Dual enrollment courses are one of the best kept secrets at CATC. In addition to earning high school credit a dual enrollment course allows a high school student to earn college credit. Students at CATC successfully completed 177 courses and earned 523 college credits. Several students earned as many as 30 college credits at CATC.

This year our local Skills USA competition will be held at CATC on January 21, 2015, from 4:00 – 6:30. Awards will be presented to students in the Cony auditorium at 7:00. The competition consists of challenges and assessments that evaluate a student skill and knowledge in the field that they are studying at CATC. The winner of these competitions will go to Bangor to compete in the state competition in March. The national competition will be held in Louisville in June.

In order to increase the opportunities that we provide to our students, CATC will be applying for an Early College Planning Grant. The grant will support the development of an Early College Program that will enable students to complete the first year of college course work necessary to earn an Associate’s Degree. During their junior and senior years, CATC students in the program will earn credits in core course and introductory classes taught to college freshmen in technical fields. Upon graduation students will be able to earn an Associate’s Degree after completing one year of college. In addition to the ability to earn a college degree in one year after high school the financial savings will be significant for a student.

Adult Education

The folks at Augusta Adult and Community Education are pleased to be able to assist citizens of the Greater Capital area achieve goals that lead to college and career pathways. The pictures on pages 46 and 50 are of participants in some of the various programs that we offer at Augusta Adult and Community Education.

Augusta Adult and Community Education would like to sincerely thank the citizens of Augusta for supporting their local adult education program and allowing us to supply the citizens of Augusta with lifelong learning opportunities.

If interested about finding out more information about our programs and what we offer, go to our website, our Facebook page. www.augusta.maineadulted.org

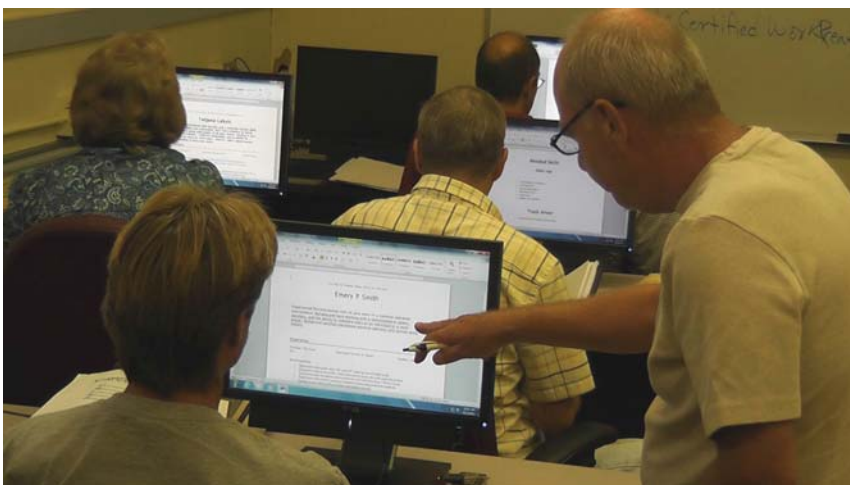
www.facebook.com/augustaadulted

School Department (cont.)



2014 High School Completion Students creating a 3D model in Engineering and Design Class.

English as a Second Language Class



Computer Classes

School Department (cont.)

Farrington Elementary School

Farrington Elementary School is a true place of learning! The environment is one of enthusiasm and active learning. The staff and students are always working on our school wide respect theme: Respect yourself, Respect others and Respect our school. This is reinforced each month at our school wide Respect assemblies. At Farrington 93% of our students consistently follow the rules and strive to make our school an amazing and safe place to learn! Our students also have an opportunity to participate in the Farrington K Club and Writing Club. Students are aware of the needs in the Augusta community by participating in “Coats for Kids,” “Stuff a Truck,” the Red Cross Blood Drive and a wide variety of service learning projects.

Parent communication is very important to the staff at Farrington. We strive to keep all parents informed and part of their child’s education. Monthly “Take Home Folders” go home at the beginning of each month with current calendars, informative newsletters, lunch menus and various handouts to keep parents connected. This is a consistent communication tool as we continue to strive to partner with our parents to send a clear message that learning is fun! Twice a year we hold parent teacher conferences. At Farrington we have two evenings of conferences. All Farrington Teachers are available for parents on these two evenings. It is an extremely positive atmosphere in the building. There is a sense of community and learning, childcare is offered in the library so that parents can meet with teachers and not worry about being distracted. During the conference parents are provided with a progress note, which guides the conversations, gives specific examples of proficiency levels of their child in all academic areas as well as work habits and social growth. 96% of parents have attended conferences over the past two and half years using this model.

Teachers are constantly working to improve classroom strategies and techniques at Farrington in order to help students be successful. One regular classroom initiative is our Child Study Process. A team, which consists of teachers, school personnel and parents, meets every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings. The team develops plans to address individual student struggles and incorporate accommodations and strategies that can help each student improve academically and behaviorally. One intervention we have school wide is our Homework Club! The Homework Club is a place where students can get homework help, academic help or a quiet place to read and it is staffed with school personnel. An average of 30 students attends the Homework Club daily.

Farrington Elementary School is a vibrant learning community for students. We take great pride in helping all children become respectful citizens who love to learn.

Gilbert Elementary School

Gilbert School continues to be a great learning environment for all students. The staff at Gilbert continues to have goals around increasing student achievement in the areas of reading, writing, and math. This year the teachers in grades K- 5 are implementing the district’s new adopted math program, My Math. Another big focus has been on learning more about and preparing for the upcoming state assessment, Smarter Balanced. If you visit our classrooms you will see objectives posted, teachers using every minute of available time for instruction, and actively engaged students. Our staff and students are always working to improve our school community.

As part of a continuing effort to improve our school community we are focusing on school wide behaviors. Gilbert School has been working on implementing a School Wide Positive Behavioral Intervention Supports model. (PBIS). This means that we have been focusing on our school rules (Be Safe, Be Respectful, and Be Responsible) and developing consistent school wide language and expectations for areas not only in their individual classrooms, but throughout the school in common areas such as hallways, cafeteria, and playground. Students have been involved by creating posters, skits, and modeling these expectations. Part of this process includes the students earning Falcon Slips from staff members throughout the school. When students are displaying behaviors that are Being Safe, Being Respectful, and Being Responsible they earn a Falcon Slip. During the Student of the Month assembly each class

School Department cont.

reports out their total of slips so that they can be added to the school wide total. The total of Falcon Slips for the month is then posted in the main lobby for all to see how the PBIS system is making a positive difference at Gilbert School.

At Gilbert School we not only care about each other, we care about our community. We continue to have many outreach initiatives in place. Some of these programs enable our students to give back to the Augusta community. Others help Gilbert School children receive the assistance they need. We have continued our connection with Chateau Cushnoc, the housing complex next door where many elderly people reside. Classes have continued to visit several times during the year to provide cards and entertainment for the elderly. We also support the Penquis Foster Grandparent Program. From this organization we have two Grammys that volunteer daily in our pre-school, kindergarten and first grade classrooms. Gilbert School continues to participate and host the Big Brother/ Big Sister Program with Cony students coming to Gilbert every Tuesday afterschool. Other groups that continue to be a great help to our school include the C-Port Credit Union (Aspirations), Elks Club (volunteer in - service time and food for families in need), and the Good Shepard Food – Bank Back Pack Program (weekly donations of back packs filled with food for students in need to take home for the weekend). Gilbert School's Student Council has worked hard to give back to the students by organizing food drives in order to make up food baskets to send home to families in need during the holidays. This group also has an interest in supporting the retired greyhounds in the Augusta area. All of these programs introduce our students to the important concept of caring about others. We are always looking for opportunities to expand our community outreach initiatives and consider them a vital part of educating our students.

Hussey Elementary School

Hussey Elementary School continues to evolve in order to meet the needs of an ever-changing student population. This year the school went through an extensive renovation. Three classrooms rooms were transformed from previously being the district administrative offices. Our new rooms include two six-grade classrooms and one multipurpose room for music and art. Also, we have under gone changes in our heating system. Just recently a new boiler was brought on-line in order to take advantage of natural gas now available in our community.

Speaking of community, as part of an effort to support the eighty plus students added to our enrollment this year, the faculty is focusing on a school-wide initiative implementing Positive Behavioral Interventions Supports (PBIS). We have been focusing on our Hussey Code: Be Safe, Be respectful and Be Responsible. Using the Hussey Code we have established a common behavior curriculum that supports consistent school-wide expectations in classrooms and all common areas i.e., hallways, cafeteria and playground. To implement PBIS, students and teachers have been involved in classroom lessons, school-wide assemblies, posters, and faculty skits. As a reward for positive behaviors, PAWS-itive slips are given out to students by faculty in classrooms and all common areas. Each month these slips are counted up and recorded at our PAWS-itive assembly. We also hold drawings which reward students who receive PAWS-itive slips.

Besides our behavior curriculum, our staff is very busy supporting student achievement in reading, writing and math. Teachers in grades K-5 are currently focused on implementing a district-wide math program titled, My Math. Teachers are also busy readying students for the spring state assessment – Smarter Balance. This year students will be taking the Smarter Balance assessment on computers for the first time.

In support of academic and social growth, students at Hussey are involved in a number of programs that provide student assistance. New programs this year include: Kennebec Behavioral Health (KBH) and Big Brothers Big Sisters. Both of these programs have strengthened the social and emotional safety net that supports Hussey students. Also, back this year is the Good Shepard Food-bank program and C-Port Credit Union (Aspirations). The gracious support provide by these outside organizations enables Hussey students to achieve their goals and gain firsthand experience in understanding how volunteerism is an essential component to any school community.

School Department (cont.)

Lincoln Elementary School

Our focus for the 14/15 school year is around implementing a new math program, continued work with best practices for writing instruction, and preparing for the upcoming Smarter Balanced Assessment. Teachers at Lincoln, and across the district, are excited with the adoption of the new math program, My Math K-5. Our professional development has been focused on understanding the framework of the program, the available resources, various assessments, and differentiated tasks. Teachers are energized with this new program and are embracing the challenges positively when learning something new.

Staff at Lincoln will continue to look at the various modes of writing, best practices, and how to move students forward to the next level with their writing. Teachers continue to work on implementing 'writing conversations' as they ask their students, "What are you working on as a writer today and how can I help you?" In addition to curriculum work, we will be looking ahead to the new state assessment, Smarter Balanced. Teachers have linked practice problems to their curriculum maps to begin exposing students to the language of the questions. Teachers will also be able to access practice tests. This will help staff with how to support our students with navigating through the test as well as their level of understanding with specific tasks.

This year, our sixth grade students have selected Bullying prevention as their Service Learning Project. They are busy researching this serious topic so that they can help educate our students on the effects of bullying. The sixth graders will share their message at a school wide assembly, at an upcoming School Board meeting, as well as at the end of the year at our Ice Cream Social. Our goal is to emphasize on the positive behaviors we want to see as we create a community of learners. This is an ongoing effort that involves the entire staff at Lincoln as well as the students and their parents.

Bringing parents into the school is an important part of the home-school collaboration. In the fall, we had a decent turnout for parent conferences as well as our largest participation with our Halloween Hoopla. Our PTC is a key factor with helping to create events that bring in our families. We will continue to work over the year to find ways to get our families involved with our school. Upcoming events on the planning board are a winter family fun night, Read-a-thon, where we celebrate reading, Lincoln Loves Learning academic fair, and Ice Cream Social.

Title I Program

In the 2014-15 school year, the Augusta School Department wrote a grant under the Federal No Child Left Behind Act and received funding to support Title 1 programming in its schools. These important resources help support supplemental instruction for students in reading and math in our 4 elementary schools, plus St. Michael's School, and support for our homeless student population across all schools in the ASD. The grant funds 4 literacy specialists, 1.5 literacy coaches, 12 educational technicians, a homeless liaison, and a director.

The literacy specialists and educational technicians are skilled staff members who directly support student literacy and math growth with specialized instruction for kindergarten through grade 6 learners. They meet with children in small groups and target instruction to specifically meet individual student needs. The caseload currently includes literacy support for 231 students and math support for 72 students. Title 1 programming is in addition to the instruction students are receiving in the classroom. With that said, we have 2 literacy coaches (one coach is part time) who work with classroom teachers to ensure coordination of services and support with classroom instruction.

Any student who receives Title 1 services during the school year is invited to attend our Title 1 summer reading and math camp. The camp is 3 days a week for 5 weeks, providing instructional support and extended learning opportunities for our students. This past summer was particularly fun and engaging for children since we had a guest speaker series that included police officer Joe Morrelli, Assistant Attorney General Steven Parker, radio personality Jon

School Department cont.

James, administrators, teachers, coaches, and students who willingly visited classrooms and promoted literacy and math learning. In addition, we partnered with Lithgow Library to offer each student the opportunity to check books out for summer reading. We had 77 children enroll and 100% of them maintained or increased their reading level.

In the 2013-14 school year our McKinney-Vento Homeless Liaison helped support 74 students. These are students who do not have a fixed, adequate or regular nighttime residence. The homeless liaison identifies homeless children and youth, disseminates public notice of educational rights, ensures school enrollment, makes referrals to appropriate services, and ensures students have full opportunity for success in school by receiving educational services they are eligible. In addition, the liaison informs families and youth about transportation services and assists them in accessing transportation so students can consistently attend school. This school year, in partnership with the Augusta Food Bank, we are supplying 60 weekend food bags to our students needing this support. Students currently identified homeless in the 2014-15 school year include 52 students.

Family involvement is weaved throughout the Title 1 program with ongoing communication and events. We have a Title 1 web page on the ASD website where we post all of our monthly newsletters with upcoming dates to remember. We have a Facebook page that can be accessed at <https://www.facebook.com/AugustaSchoolsTitle1> and a Title 1 parent advisory board who helps promote literacy and math achievement. We believe all children can learn literacy and math skills for success in school and life.

Line Dancing Class



Augusta Board of Education

The Augusta Board of Education is comprised of dedicated members of the Community of Augusta who contribute long hours and great interest in the welfare of students. Board members visit classrooms, volunteer on field trips, chaperone school events, belong to organizations such as the Parent Teacher groups and show significant interest in all aspects of children's education.

We are still thrilled with our extra and co-curricular opportunities for our students. We are about to embark on the 123rd Chizzle Whizzle show involving over 300 students and many of our staff members. Our students have experienced great success in athletics, including a state championship! Go Rams!



Chairman Susan B. Campbell



Member Amanda Bartlett



Member Deborah "Debi" Towle



Member Katie Vose



Member Jennifer Day



Member Laura Hamilton



Member Nicole Desjardins



Member Laurence Ringrose



Member Kimberly Martin

Friends of the Kennebec River Rail Trail

Lesley Jones, Treasurer

This was another busy year for the Rail Trail, some highlights include:

Half Marathon and 5 k races were held on Sunday, June 22, 2014. 223 runners participated in the half marathon, 26 in the half marathon relay and 118 in the 5 k. Over \$10,000 in net proceeds was raised by this race. Another \$20,000 was raised with the Annual Appeal and general donations. Monies raised are used to help the Friends pay for upkeep and improvements on the Trail. Thanks to everyone who made a donation to the Trail in 2014.

The Friends provided a payment of \$33,000 to the Board of Supervisors as a partial payment to begin replacing the old deteriorated cedar fencing with vinyl covered chain link fence. The first section in Augusta and Hallowell, consisting of about 4200 lineal feet, was completed in October.

Seventeen non-profits used the trail as a place to sponsor a fund raising event.

Students in Gardiner, Hallowell and Augusta all participated in school sponsored Day of Caring events that included projects on the Rail Trail.

Four Trail Maintenance Days were held at various times during the year. Volunteers worked on the “Great Wall” in Hallowell and other places along the Trail. Thanks to the folks who showed up to work at these and also to the folks who go out on their own time and do maintenance on the trail!

Lionel Cayer, City Engineer for Augusta and also on the Board of Supervisors, continues work on plans to finish the first quarter mile of trail from the City of Augusta’s Waterfront Park along the river, up to the MSHA parking lot at the 0.25 mile marker. Securing necessary funding and environmental permits will determine when construction can start; hopefully in 2015.

The Trail was designated by the Maine Dept. Of Transportation as a Trail of Statewide Significance. This is important because it means that the Kennebec River Rail Trail is now eligible for 100% Federal funding for trail improvements as long as there is funding available (there currently isn’t).

Over the years we have had many special people work to move the Trail forward in a positive way. Also included in this category are the communities of Augusta, Farmingdale, Gardiner and Hallowell. This year Chris Cart, one of our Board members, painted four water colors of the Trail. One of these watercolors of the trail is being given to each community and to certain individuals that have been key in creating and keeping the Trail going. The water color prints will also be sold as a fund raiser for the Trail.

Moving ahead, we are looking at a Capital Campaign to raise money for items such as: new kiosks, bike racks, providing decorative banners at the Trail entrances, completing the fence replacement, replacing the concrete bollards, replacing benches that are past their useful life, repairing the granite markers and other important trail improvements.



CHELLIE PINGREE
CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
1ST DISTRICT, MAINE

Dear Friends,

I hope this letter finds you and your family well. It's an honor to represent you in Congress. Thank you for the chance to update you on my work there and in Maine.

Like many here at home, I find the current partisan environment in Washington and Congress to be very frustrating. Attempts to take away people's health care, weaken environmental protections, and stoke controversy have been put ahead of more meaningful work to create jobs, help people through tough times, and give our children a better future.

Still, I have tried to find opportunities to work on issues where my colleagues across the aisle and I can find agreement. As a member of the minority party, I'm very proud that these efforts have earned several legislative victories that benefit the people of our state.

One of the most significant was passage of a Farm Bill containing many reforms I introduced to help the kind of small, diversified, family farms that we have here in Maine. These included more funding to help these farms meet the growing demand for healthy local food, as well as better insurance to fit their needs and helping SNAP recipients use benefits at farmers markets.

Another bill I introduced was signed into law, initiating a study of the York River to see if it is a good candidate for the federal Wild and Scenic Rivers program. The classification would help protect this important natural resource while potentially bringing more visitors to the area and an increased amount of federal investment for its conservation. As a member of the House Appropriations Committee, I've worked to secure other investments for the state as well, including \$20 million to replace a crumbling, unhealthy and outdated tribal school in Washington County.

But not all the work I do is from Washington. My offices in Portland and Waterville assist hundreds of constituents every year who have issues with federal agencies and programs—veterans benefits, Social Security, and passports among them. If you have a problem where I might be of assistance, I encourage you to call (207) 774-5019. My staff and I welcome the opportunity to serve you.

Again, it's a pleasure to represent you in Congress. Please keep in touch.

Best wishes,

Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress

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Waterville
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Waterville, ME 04901
(207) 873-5713



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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(207) 287-1400

TTY: (207) 287-4469

Lori A. Fowle

305 Taber Hill Road
Vassalboro, ME 04989
Residence: (207) 872-7268
Cell Phone: (207) 649-4863
Lori.Fowle@legislature.maine.gov

Dear Augusta Residents,

It is an honor to serve once again as your State Representative. I intend to work hard to retain your trust and build upon the work I've done in the Legislature over the past two years.

We are going to take on a number of big issues at the State House this year, from the state budget, to strengthening our schools, supporting senior citizens, property tax relief, jobs, wages, entrepreneurship, agriculture, access to affordable health care, energy costs, student debt and many more. I have submitted a number of bills this year, including legislation aimed at helping veterans – a major priority of mine during my first term.

I'm also happy to report that I have been appointed House chair of the Legislature's Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee. It's a golden opportunity to make sure Maine is doing all it can to combat drug abuse and trafficking, human trafficking, domestic violence and driving under the influence. It's also a chance to better promote fire safety, reduce the incidence of carbon monoxide poisoning, and make sure we are doing the best job possible when it comes to managing our prisons and county jails.

Whether we are dealing with the above issues or any other topic, I stand ready to work with all of my colleagues, regardless of party affiliation, to make sure we're doing the best work we can for the people of our district and all the people of Maine.

Please contact me if I can be of any help or if you want to discuss or testify on any legislation. My email is lori.fowle@legislature.maine.gov, and my phone number is 872-7268.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lori Fowle".

Lori Fowle
State Representative

District 80 Augusta (part), Somerville, Vassalboro and Windsor, plus the unorganized territory of Hibberts Gore
Printed on recycled paper



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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Representative Matthew G. Pouliot
Matt.Pouliot@legislature.maine.gov

January, 2015

Friends and neighbors,

I wish to start by thanking you, the residents of Augusta, for electing me to serve a second term in the Maine House of Representatives. Representing our community for the past two years has been an honor and a privilege.

We are already hard at work, and at time of writing, there have been nearly 1,900 bills submitted for consideration for the first legislative session. Each of these bills will be reviewed and vetted by a Joint Standing Committee before being passed to the floor for a vote. This session, I return to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs which is responsible for bills regarding the Department of Education; school finance, governance and administration; school curriculum, instruction and assessment; teachers and administrators; as well as the University of Maine System and Community College System. I look forward to working with members of both of parties to help create an educational environment that prepares our youth for the future, and encourages them to stay here in Maine.

Throughout my term, I will be continuing to send out weekly e-newsletters, as well as periodic mailings, to keep you informed on state news. If you would like to begin receiving these updates, please send me your e-mail address. You can also view these weekly updates on my Facebook page, www.facebook.com/PouliotForME. As a Representative of our capitol city, it is crucial for me to stay informed on the issues that are affecting you. Please do not hesitate to call or email me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matthew G. Pouliot".

Matthew G. Pouliot
State Representative



Donna R. Doore
49 Pleasant Hill Road
Augusta, ME 04330
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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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LETTER TO THE CITY OF AUGUSTA

Dear Neighbors:

It is an honor to serve as your state representative in the 127th Maine Legislature. I am grateful for the opportunity to represent you in Augusta.

I am excited that Speaker Mark Eves of the House appointed me to the State and Local Government Committee. My committee works on state contracts and fiscal procedures, state government organization, oversight of state officials, state employees and property, county and regional government, Legislature, municipal and local government and public services.

This session, the Legislature will take on a number of important issues from the state budget, to strengthening our schools, supporting our senior citizens, property tax relief, jobs, veterans, agriculture, protecting our most vulnerable community members, energy costs, the environment and more.

Whether we are dealing with the above issues or any other topic, I stand ready to work with all of my colleagues, regardless of party affiliation, to make sure we're doing the best work we can for the people of our district and the people of Maine.

If you have questions about state government or if you need assistance, you can email me at Donna.Doore@legislature.maine.gov or call me at 592-6849.

Sincerely,

Donna Doore
State Representative

District 85 Augusta (part)

Printed on recycled paper

Legislative Members

DISTRICT 80

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DISTRICT 85

Hon. Donna R. Doore
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Capitol Telephone: 207-287-1440 (Voice) - 207-287-4469 (TTY)

Year-Round Toll Free House of Representatives Message Center: 1-800-423-2900

Maine Legislative Internet Web Site : <http://www.maine.gov/legis/house>

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Telephone: 207-287-1505
E-Mail address: roger.katz@legislature.maine.gov

Capitol Address: Senate Office, 3 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0003

Capitol Telephone: 207-287-1515 (Voice) - 207-287-1583 (TTY)

Year-Round Toll Free Senate Message Center: 1-800-423-6900

MAINE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION

Angus S. King, Jr. (I)
359 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
Tel: 202-224-5344

Term Expires: January, 2019
Augusta Office: 4 Gabriel Drive
Augusta, ME 04101
Tel: 207-622-8292

Senator Susan M. Collins (R)
413 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-1904
Tel: 202-224-2523

Term Expires: January, 2021
Augusta Office: 68 Sewall St.
Augusta, ME 04330
Tel: 207-622-8414 Fax: 207-622-5884

Representative Chellie Pingree (D-1st District)
2162 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
Tel: 202-225-6116

Term Expires: January, 2017
Waterville Office: 1 Silver Street
Waterville, ME 04901
Tel: 207-873-5713

Representative Bruce Poliquin (R-2nd District)
426 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
Tel: 202-225-2943

Term Expires: January, 2017
Lewiston Office: 179 Lisbon Street
Lewiston, ME 04401
Tel: 207-784-0768